

Government facing two defeats in Commons

The Government, facing defeat on two key Commons votes this week, is refusing to treat the issues as ones of confidence. The first danger comes tonight in a docks labour scheme vote and a second in Thursday's vote on a Bill to extend dividend controls. The Government is expected to survive tomorrow's vote on its pay policy White Paper.

Dividends Bill and dock plan at risk

Fred Rixey, Political Editor
The Prime Minister, facing a rather theatrical week of ups and downs over economic and social policies, is to decide today whether to dramatise tomorrow's Commons debate on the economy by giving the final reply speech. It is the one key vote of the week he is sure of winning, with the Liberals supporting his 'White Paper', 'winning the battle against inflation'.
His speaking would draw Mrs Margaret Thatcher into asking her first major speech to the House for almost a year and the set piece could leave a Government looking substantial, with the tacit concurrence of the unions in its policy to follow in meetings on Wednesday.
By comparison, the expected defeat for the Government's dividend Control Bill on Thursday would be reduced to a confusing oddity.
The theatricality lies in the fact that the Government is apologetically not treating any of the votes in these days of the parliamentary session as issues of confidence, least of all the vote on dividend control. Any suggestion of high tension is overlaid, especially with the union leadership more quiescent in continuing pay restraint than meets the eye.
Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, yesterday commented on the vote on the Dividend Control Bill, saying on BBC radio that the Government was "very silly to go ahead... knowing almost certainly that it is not going to go through".
He suggested that it perhaps needed to be a "window dressing" to show the earnest of their determination to those who are trying to persuade to accept their pay policy.
Mr Steel emphasized that, while the Lib-Lab pact having only a few days to run, it is hardly likely there would be any more issues of confidence. He added that it was not realistic for Mr James Callaghan to consider delaying in action before October.
Some puzzlement persists as to why the Government has gone to such lengths as to recall

Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, from Peking minutes after her arrival for a week's stay. Unless she is to be back in time for tomorrow night's vote, rather than Thursday's, such expense hardly makes sense, as MPs have remarked. In Whitehall it is pointed out that the Government wants to get the maximum number of votes on Thursday, even if it is going to lose the Bill extending dividend controls.
The other defeat for the Government looms late tonight in a motion on the Dock Labour Scheme, 1978, in which the Government, apparently, has neither Liberal nor nationalist support.
Tuesday's debate on the Government's pay White Paper should provide a rehearsal of the election campaign, arguing over the conduct of the economy. The Conservatives have decided that though responsibility and moderation over pay are desirable, a fixed figure norm across all pay, year by year, is not.
It is likely that they will seek to amend the Government's motion, although its wording is difficult to attack without seeming to be against the battle on inflation. Mrs Thatcher is also certain to come under attack from the Government for her remarks during a BBC Panorama interview last week that under a Conservative "growth-in-output" policy there would be "enormous variations" in pay settlements in order to reward skilled workers.
As for the election date, Mr Steel said that he had the advantage of having discussed it with the Prime Minister. He said: "I think it is probably true that the Government has accepted that October is the one and only inevitable month." However, it was unrealistic for the Prime Minister to contemplate delay.
It was not just the ending of the election campaign that the public has come to expect, almost an election in October. And I think it would be damaging both for the country, as a whole and, incidentally, for the Government if it attempted to go on into a fifth year."

Trade union view, page 2

More flight delays for British holidaymakers

A Staff Reporter
After a day of generally better conditions, delays on flights to Spain from Britain again became lengthy last night. Departures were cut to an hour because of the dispute by French air traffic controllers.
Holiday travellers from Britain had two-hour delays on average early in the day. By evening they were waiting at least six hours.
It was still better than on Sunday, when travellers had to wait for up to 18 hours.

The French dispute, which in some cases is circumvented by switching to alternative routes, is due to end at midday today, but it will probably resume next weekend.
Earlier yesterday the French controllers allowed 15 flights through to Spain an hour, against the usual peak of 36. About 80,000 passengers were due to fly to southern Europe at the weekend. About a third of all aircraft have been flying the oceanic route, avoiding French air space.

Oil exploration groups will pay more tax

is to increase taxes paid by oil companies developing United Kingdom offshore oil and gas are to be used this week. It is understood Government will raise the Petroleum Revenue Tax from 45 per cent to 60 per cent. Allowances on the tax are also expected to be amended. Last year, North Sea trading profits were £1,700m, tax paid was less than £50m. Page 15

rain fire inquiry pens today

public inquiry opens today at Taunton into the Penzance-London night train fire on July 6 in which people were killed. It is expected to examine allegations that some outside doors of the blazing carriages were locked or could not be opened. Page 2

CIA hand seen in Briton's murder

There is evidence suggesting that the CIA had a part in the 1971 murder in Athens of Ann Chapman, a British journalist, according to a former Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey. Miss Chapman was about to release American intelligence papers on Turkey, he says. Page 4

Brittany bombs

Bombs have exploded at police buildings in two Brittany towns as 14 Breton autonomists await judgment in Paris accused of a series of bombings. Damage was serious in the two incidents, seen as gestures of defiance against the French authorities. Page 4

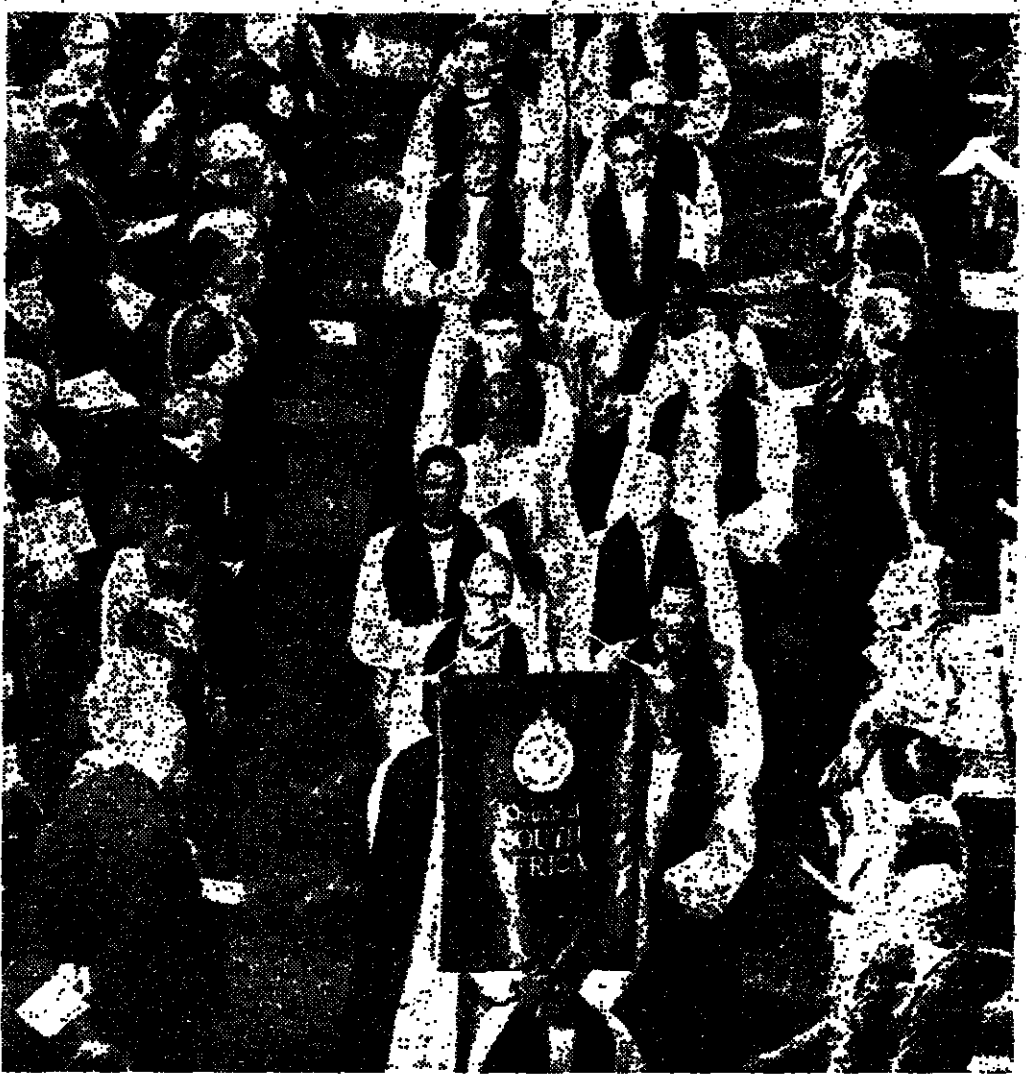
Politics in business

According to the Confederation of British Industry companies should make it clear to employees that they regard political ambitions as a good thing. This is stated in a report prepared in response to concern that politicians had little first-hand experience of business problems. Page 15

'Vast areas are under control of guerrillas who decide which transport may move on roads'

Rhodesian internal settlement in parlous condition

By James Wallace
A passenger arriving in Salisbury or Bulawayo on an international flight finds little to indicate that he has come to join a society in its death throes.
But the war has reached even to the domestic check-in point. Large notices direct passengers to a special counter where they may hand in their weapons for storage in a designated part of the aircraft. They are returned at another special counter at the destination.
In the towns themselves there are additional indications to these familiar last year—shortages of goods in the shops, petrol rationing, large numbers of young men in uniform.
In the hotels there are young men with their limbs in plaster; in the streets there are frequent police cordons and body searches. There is a careful security control on all public buildings, and strange military vehicles rumble to and fro.
The urban black population is greatly increased; in the Salisbury townships of Harare and Highfield most families have staying with them relations who have fled from the war. In the European Areas servants' houses are overflowing with extras. At the Harare bus stop, at Epworth mission, and at other points within the city boundary "plastic towns" have mushroomed.
The International Red Cross now counts urban refugees by the thousand. One observer with experience of other parts of Africa likened the situation to that of Angola in the months before independence.
The year since my last visit has indeed seen dramatic changes. On the political front there have been the Anglo-American proposals and the March agreement on "internal settlement", as Mr Ian Smith calls it. But the real difference lies in the state of the civil war.
A year ago most main roads were still fairly safe, at least



Bishops from South Africa in the procession of delegates into Canterbury Cathedral yesterday for a sung Eucharist at the start of the Lambeth conference of Anglican bishops (report, page 2).

Ventilation of Labour poll tension

By Our Political Editor
Labour Party tension over the Prime Minister's resistance to attempts to hold a full and easy discussion of its general election manifesto is being ventilated this week in an unusual Thursday meeting of the party's home policy committee, called by Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy.
Some in the party see the meeting as Mr Benn's attempt to counterbalance the Prime Minister's "growth-in-output" policy. Mr Benn's attempt to counterbalance the Prime Minister's "growth-in-output" policy. Mr Benn's attempt to counterbalance the Prime Minister's "growth-in-output" policy.
According to political sources in Cairo, Mr Sadat's new party will be set up within the next two months and is expected to be modelled broadly along the lines of social democratic parties in Western Europe.
Mr Sadat's constitutional change, appeared to be aimed specifically at countering criticism about the repressive effects of the recent referendum and subsequent laws aimed at silencing his domestic critics.
At one stage Mr Sadat accused his left-wing and right-wing opponents inside Egypt of joining forces to spread allegations that the country was returning to dictatorship.
They denounced that concentration camps would be opened anew and that the freezing of a party or the election of another would bring about a democratic collapse in Egypt, he said.
This was a direct reference to the present position and the right-wing New Wafd in the weeks after the referendum.
According to political observers, the effect of the relaxation will be the creation of two or three small opposition parties within the Assembly but, unlike the recently dissolved New Wafd, they are unlikely to enjoy wide popular support in the country as a whole.
As a result of the new proposals, the role of the central Arab Socialist Union will be abolished.
Speaking of his own proposed new role as a party leader, Mr Sadat said: "It should be well known that my conception of the presidency will never change. I will always be father of all of you, and I will not discriminate between one citizen and the other except on the basis of efforts exerted for the interests of the nation."
During his speech, Mr Sadat claimed that safeguards against abuses of democracy did not imply any restrictions on democracy as such. He put forward another suggestion whose effects are still uncertain. It was an order to the Assembly, the Cabinet, trade unions, the press and other institutions to draw up a "code of ethics", breaches of which would be open to investigation by the Socialist Prosecutor.
Americans puzzled, page 5

President Sadat forms own political party

From Christopher Walker, Cairo, July 23
President Sadat yesterday announced plans to relax the present restrictions on the formation of political parties—a move seen as Western diplomatic circles as a determined attempt to improve his international image of a democratic ruler.
During a two-hour address broadcast live to the nation on the twenty-sixth anniversary of the overthrow of the Egyptian monarchy, Mr Sadat said he would be the first to take advantage of the relaxation and form his own political party.
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Americans puzzled, page 5

Angola-trained Zapu army airlifted back to bases in Zambia

From Lawrence Pintak, Lusaka, July 23
About 2,000 guerrillas of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu-based wing of the Rhodesian Patriotic Front have been flown in here over the past two weeks after six-month training courses at camps in Angola, diplomatic sources said.
They were ferried to Lusaka's international airport by Boeing 737s of the Angolan state airline, then moved to transit camps outside the city. The Beings returned to Angola with new recruits for further training.
The airlift could bring the number of trained guerrillas of Mr Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu) on African soil to as high as 10,000. They are generally regarded as better trained than their counterparts in Mr Robert Mugabe's Mozambique-based Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu).
In addition to guerrilla training, the Zapu force is believed to be receiving instruction in conventional military tactics, to prepare it to take over the army after Zimbabwe emerges.
There are about 75 Cuban military advisers in Zambia schooling the guerrillas in the use of light artillery and rocket launchers—weapons of conventional, not guerrilla war, and armoured vehicles have been brought in by road from Angola.
Guerrilla activity inside Rhodesia—especially from Zapu's Zambian bases—has increased dramatically in the past six months. It is estimated of having killed 908 Rhodesian soldiers and "sympathisers" from March until the end of May is regarded as inflated, just how serious the war has become.
is reflected by figures released by the government in Salisbury. Since the signing on March 3 of the internal settlement by Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, and three internal black nationalists, the bush war (on all fronts) has claimed more than 900 lives, severely stretching the nation's military resources.
In an effort to counter the increased threat on its north-western front, Rhodesia has mounted at least three big assaults this year on Zapu camps in Zambia, killing more than 150 guerrillas.
For the past month, since an attack on a guerrilla staging area in the Gwembe Valley near the southern end of Lake Kariba, the Rhodesians have maintained a military presence on Zambian soil.
Remainder inside Zambia for two weeks "tours", about a half-dozen four-man groups led by white officers, have harassed guerrillas in the region, laying ambushes and planting landmines.
"They apparently figure it's easier to burn them (the guerrillas) before they cross the border than to try to burn them after they are in the country," one diplomatic observer said.
Contact with Zambian regulars has apparently been avoided. While there has been no official government acknowledgment of the continued Rhodesian presence, officials have confirmed that three schools in the area have been closed. The government-controlled Times of Zambia reported at the weekend a "government spokesman" as saying that six teachers had been kidnapped by Rhodesian Setous Scouts commandos and the Defence Ministry denied this report.
Another massacre, page 5

Important early church found

By Norman Hammond, Archaeological Correspondent
The foundations of an early church have been found in Lincoln, thought to be the oldest built in the early seventh century by St Paulinus, the companion of St Augustine.
The church, the location of which has long been disputed, was described by the Venerable Bede, who reported miracles of healing there, as being of remarkable workmanship. The discoveries so far bear him out.
The church was found during long-term excavation of the demolished church of St Paulinus, the heart of the Roman upper town. Its discovery is described by Miss Christina Colyer, director of excavations for the Lincoln Archaeological Trust, as being of outstanding importance for church archaeology.
The site of the church was probably in the forum of the Roman town, and the plan of the foundations is Roman in form: the building was very large for an early church, at least 60ft long from east to west.
According to sources from the twelfth century, the present

China sending scientists

Peking, July 23.—China wants to send large numbers of young scientists to Britain for research as part of an agreement proposed between the two countries.
Dr Michael Snider, vice-president of the Royal Society, said today China would pay all the costs. "Our problem will be simply accommodating them at British universities and institutions," he said.
The society and the Chinese Academy of Science had agreed that there would be a formal agreement on scientific exchanges. "We shall do our best to accommodate as many students as possible," he said. Chinese plans were likely to be on a "very large scale".
Dr Snider is also director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Laboratories in London, is leading a five-member delegation of cancer experts to China.—Reuter.

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Plan for computer security authority

Establishment of an independent data protection authority to safeguard rights of access to, and the security of, computerized personal information is understood to be recommended by the Data Protection Committee. The committee wants the authority to be free of local and central government control because bureaucracy has many computerized records. Page 3

China-first mood

China's closing of its foreign aid purse to Vietnam and Albania is one sign that internal problems are requiring Peking to put its own interests first. A mood of national self-interest is growing as food shortages, an expected poor harvest and the stagnation of living standards demand action. Page 5

All-in disability scheme likely

An election commitment by the Labour Party to introduce a comprehensive disability allowance appears likely. The Government is studying a £480m scheme to cover the 1,500,000 people known to be severely handicapped. At present 3,500,000 people receive some state benefit because they suffer a physical or mental handicap. Page 4

Tory change: The Conservative Party has decided that its proposal for a register of dependants should apply to all Commonwealth countries. Page 3

Scott inquiry: Police are to interview public figures, including Sir Harold Wilson, in order to examine the political background. Page 3

Khartoum summit: Moderates prevail at the meeting of the Organization of African Unity. Page 5

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HOME NEWS

TUC chiefs expected to confine rebellion on pay limit to words

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

Union leaders will give their considered verdict this week on the Government's White Paper limit of 5 per cent on wage rises, and they will strongly deplore the Cabinet's insistence on setting a pay norm for 1978-79.

But loyalist moderates who dominate the TUC General Council are expected to confine the rebellion to words rather than deeds, certainly this side of the general election, which is still being tipped for the autumn.

Significantly, senior union leaders are to attend a meeting of the "Walworth Road Committee" on Wednesday immediately after the general council has discussed the Government's White Paper, *Winning the Battle Against Inflation*. The committee was formed to drum up finance for the Labour Party's new headquarters in south London, but it is also becoming a focus for the trade union campaign to get the Government re-elected.

Those talks, chaired by Mr David Bassett, chairman of the TUC and general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, will take place in the wake of formal approval being given today to a new joint policy document, *Into the Eighties*, designed to weld together the political and industrial wings of the labour movement over the next decade.

Endorsement for the statement, which has been heavily rewritten to take account of objections by politicians and union leaders, will come at a meeting of the TUC-Labour Party Liaison Committee at Transport House this morning.

Taken together, the likely course of events this week will provide political comfort for

the Cabinet rather than a threat of damaging confrontation in the run-up to the election.

The inflation White Paper will be discussed by the TUC General Council after a report by Mr Len Murray, the general secretary, on last week's talks with the Chancellor and senior ministers. The unions are unhappy that Mr Denis Healey has seen fit to ignore their advice by insisting on a figure for pay rises in the next round, and they are particularly concerned at the passage that suggests yearly agreements on wage bargaining.

However, the real argument over the future of collective bargaining is likely to be put back to the annual congress of the TUC in Brighton in September, when the pressure on opponents of Mr Callaghan's long-term approach to incomes policy not to rock the pre-electoral boat will be even greater.

In the short term, the Government's supporters on the general council want to make their displeasure felt without causing a public rift that would, it is felt, only improve Mrs Margaret Thatcher's chances on polling day.

The "Walworth Road Committee" expects to be able to announce a successful response to its appeal to unions for money to finance the Labour Party's long-delayed move from the offices of the Transport and General Workers' Union in Smith Square to a new home across the river.

The Low Pay Unit today urges the Government to adopt a formula that would give three million low-paid and largely non-union workers a minimum cash rise of £4.50, which is 5 per cent of present average earnings for men.

David Wood, page 13



The rain-soaked procession leaving the Martyrs Memorial Cottages, Tolpuddle, yesterday, with Mr Silkin, centre, beneath the agricultural workers' banner.

'5%' clouds union day of memory

By Donald McIntyre

Labour Reporter

Tolpuddle

Mr John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was greeted with colourful and good-humoured opposition to the Government's proposed 5 per cent limit on incomes yesterday.

Mr Jack Boddy, general secretary of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, told the annual Tolpuddle Rally, at

which Mr Silkin was the guest speaker, that 5 per cent would mean a £2.15 increase in the minimum agricultural weekly wage.

He said the White Paper had suggested there would be special help for the lower paid. "I say that agricultural workers out of all those in industry are entitled to go well beyond that figure."

He told marchers outside the Martyrs Memorial Cottages: "I think that farmworkers would regard a 5 per cent increase as an insult. It would be bad enough if we did not hear of other better-paid groups being regarded as special cases. But with that it becomes intolerable."

More than two thousand trade unionists ignored the steady drizzle to take part in

the rally commemorating the six Dorset farmworkers who were transported to Australia in 1834 for administering an illegal oath in an effort to form a trade union, they provided a colourful display of banners.

Mr Silkin said that inflation had been reduced to a rate of 7.4 per cent "because the nation as a whole has been willing to make the necessary sacrifices, pay policy included."

"If I am asked why agricultural workers among the lowest paid should have had to suffer too, I can only say that nobody can open up a national challenge."

The agricultural union is claiming a rise in the minimum wage from £42 a week to £50.

Talks about new 'Times' disputes procedure

By Our Labour Editor

Leaders of printing unions and the management of Times Newspapers are expected to have early talks on a new disputes procedure designed to prevent damaging unofficial strikes after a warning that publication of the group's newspapers may be suspended from November 30.

Mr Al Hussey, chief executive and managing director of Times Newspapers, has written to general secretaries of all unions involved proposing a meeting "in the very near future" to discuss a fresh industrial relations system. His move coincides with a similar initiative on the trade union side.

Mr William Keys, general secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades and chairman of the TUC Printing Industries Committee, is to approach officials of his own and other unions today with a view to arranging a meeting with the company's management.

Employees of Times Newspapers will receive a letter this week warning that if industrial disputes continue and agreement on proposals "aimed at protecting the future of the company and its November 30, publication of the group's newspapers will be suspended."

Mr Hussey said last night: "We felt the staff ought to be aware that the situation was dramatic. There had been no dramatic improvement. On the other hand, we have already written to the general secretaries asking for a meeting in the very near future, and as a start we are sending them draft proposals for a disputes procedure."

"I think a disputes procedure that is honoured on all sides is the key to the whole problem because implicit in that is that there is no hostile action taken against publications while we sort out our difficulties."

He wants to create a climate so that we can sort out our difficulties without any publication of the papers, and get agreement on conditions and manning without any compulsory redundancy, out of which we can restructure our wages."

The warning of suspended publication comes after unofficial industrial action that cut off copies on July 16. The paper was printed normally yesterday. It is pointed out that delays in production of *The Times* have meant that on 77 out of 85 recent publishing days overnight trains to the provinces have been missed, causing reduced circulation.

Mr Keys said last night that the unions wanted to "find out what this is all about." He added: "What there ought to be is a working party from trade unions and management to have a look at what needs to be done. We do not want any more policy declarations; what they have to do now is to look at the skeleton. I think it is possible to sustain an industrial relations system that will stand the test."

Some bishops 'have almost stopped believing God still speaks to the Church'

Four hundred bishops, delegates to the worldwide Lambeth conference, were told by the Archbishop of Canterbury yesterday that some of them had almost given up believing that God still spoke to the Church.

"God forgives us. We would not admit it; it would shock our congregations if we did. But we have stopped listening and our spiritual life has died on us, although we keep up the motions," Dr Donald Coggan said at the opening service in Canterbury Cathedral.

"But many in this congregation know that God does speak and that he makes his mind known to us in a variety of ways, even to us bishops, men who occupy all positions the most perilous, because the cameras are always on us and we are compelled constantly to utter."

It was urgent that the bishops heard what God had to say about the world, the Church and themselves. Those who really believed that God went on disclosing himself in the fullness of his being, were full of hope and expecting nothing less than human talk and more trust in listening. That was why, he said, the conference was being held residentially at the University of Kent rather than at Lambeth.

"It is easier to hearken if we can daily unite in unburied worship and slip into the chapel between sessions," he said. God had a way of making himself heard in "the voice of gentle rain" at Lambeth.

The predominant attitude must be of questioning and obedience. They would seek to

understand "what the Lord is saying" in the world, in the devotional lectures, in the Bible, in the lives of the saints, in the lives of the poor, in the lives of the rich, in the lives of the Church.

A bishop, he said, should be open to the world, because he is a shepherd, a shepherd of the flock, a shepherd of the Church, a shepherd of the world. He should be a shepherd of the flock, a shepherd of the Church, a shepherd of the world.

The eyes of the Church are on the world, the eyes of the world are on the Church. We shall never threaten or lie always love."

The bishops are at the cathedral as part of the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to the Tazara Daily services will be a liturgy of the differences of the Anglican tradition.

The main work of the conference starts today on August 13. It is divided into three sessions. "What is the people and the ministry, the role of the Anglican among the churches?"

The bishops' wives are apart from their at a teacher training centre. Their presence is under the watchful eye of Jean Coggan, wife of the bishop.

Patronage proposed

New race moves urged on councils

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

Local authorities should take stronger measures to combat racial disadvantage in their communities, a report published today states.

There should be more co-ordination between council departments and new projects adopted in the fields of housing, social services and in staff training, the report by the Labour Party Race Relations Action Group concludes.

In a foreword the group argues that the Labour Party has the power, through the local authorities it controls, to make an important impact on the position of ethnic minorities.

It believes that the Labour Party must have responded effectively to the threat posed by the National Front. "However, defeating the fascists is only one part of the battle which must be won. There is a vital need for the Labour movement to take on the whole problem of racial discrimination."

"The results would not be immediate, but if the battle is to be won in the long term it is vital that local authorities re-examine their own structure and policies."

Shot girl, is out of danger

From David Nicholson

Belfast

Jacqueline Hale, 15, of Mountview Drive, who was wounded in the shooting in the city on Saturday in Crumlin, is out of danger, a spokesman for the hospital said.

The gun battle, which lasted for about 10 minutes, was the first in a series of attacks on the city since the beginning of the year.

Speelman to lead in chess

Jonathan Speelman

a clear lead in the chess tournament, in

today (a chess

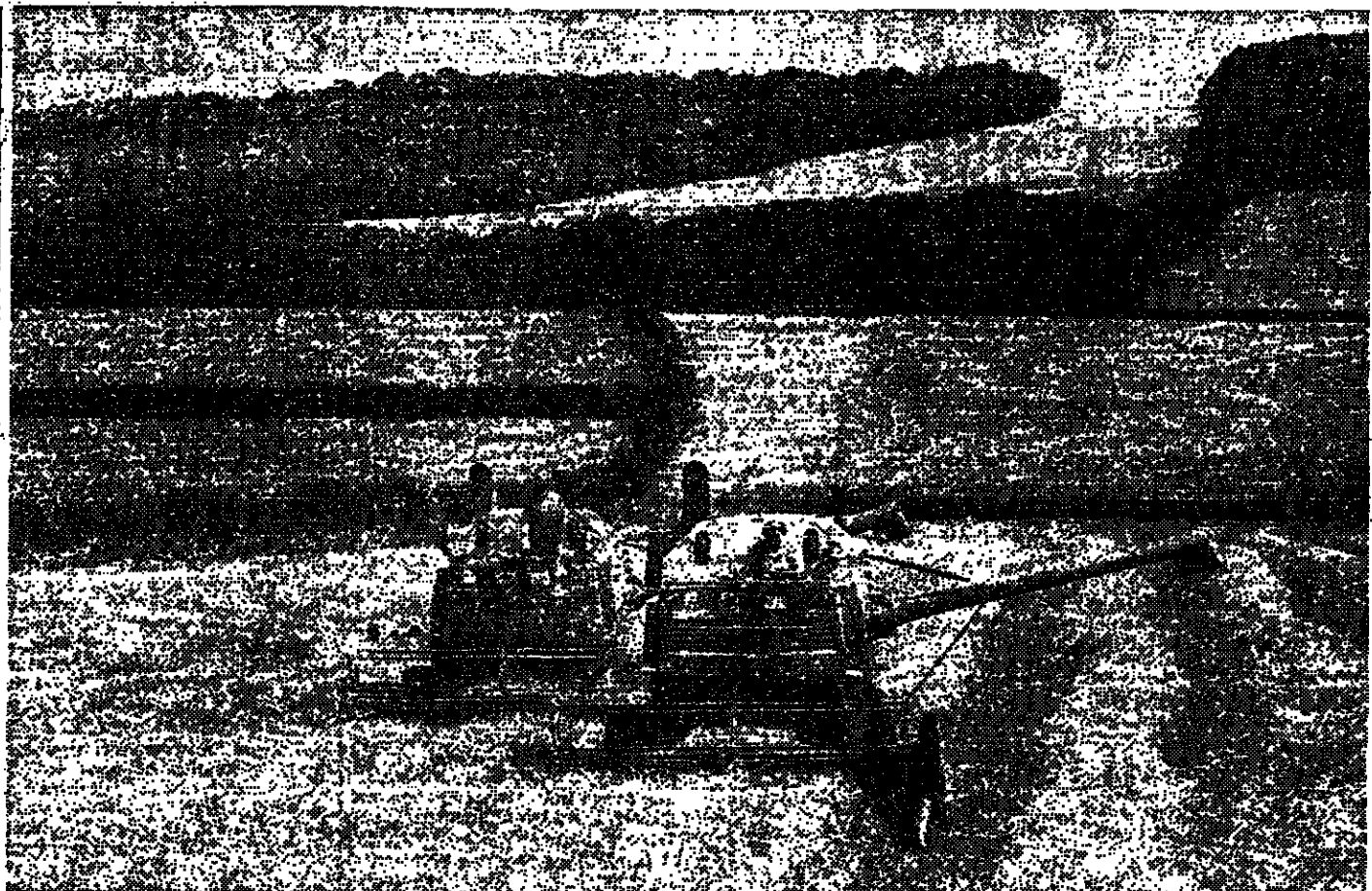
writes).

Yate Kraidman, the manager in the tournament, the youngest player and second place.

Round five: (admission free) Kraidman, 1st; Speelman, 2nd; Kraidman, 3rd; Speelman, 4th; Kraidman, 5th; Speelman, 6th; Kraidman, 7th; Speelman, 8th; Kraidman, 9th; Speelman, 10th; Kraidman, 11th; Speelman, 12th; Kraidman, 13th; Speelman, 14th; Kraidman, 15th; Speelman, 16th; Kraidman, 17th; Speelman, 18th; Kraidman, 19th; Speelman, 20th; Kraidman, 21st; Speelman, 22nd; Kraidman, 23rd; Speelman, 24th; Kraidman, 25th; Speelman, 26th; Kraidman, 27th; Speelman, 28th; Kraidman, 29th; Speelman, 30th; Kraidman, 31st; Speelman, 32nd; Kraidman, 33rd; Speelman, 34th; Kraidman, 35th; Speelman, 36th; Kraidman, 37th; Speelman, 38th; Kraidman, 39th; Speelman, 40th; Kraidman, 41st; Speelman, 42nd; Kraidman, 43rd; Speelman, 44th; Kraidman, 45th; Speelman, 46th; Kraidman, 47th; Speelman, 48th; Kraidman, 49th; Speelman, 50th; Kraidman, 51st; Speelman, 52nd; Kraidman, 53rd; Speelman, 54th; Kraidman, 55th; Speelman, 56th; Kraidman, 57th; Speelman, 58th; Kraidman, 59th; Speelman, 60th; Kraidman, 61st; Speelman, 62nd; 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Individual's access right to computers

ward Tandler
viduals should be given
access to some personal
records such as credit
employment history,
security benefits and
records, according to the
recommendation of a govern-
ment committee which reports
to the Home Office this week.
The committee, which was set
up two years ago, is recom-
mending that the Home Office
should be given an independent
data authority to safeguard
the rights of access and the
security of computerized
information.
The committee wants the
law, which is said to be
expensive to run, to be
of local and central
government control because
computerized records are
the bureaucracy.
There are more than 40
million computerized
information systems, and the
committee has noted the types
of information held and the
for flexibility, terms of
protection. For
le, police records on
his would remain closed
public.
The committee has looked at
the systems on its
and, describing the
authority, suggests that
it be the guardian of
that the right data is
the right people for the
purpose.
The information is stored in
a way which it is said
is not secure, so that the
of the information can
be accessed, the committee
reports, which is said to
be a serious problem in a
system, to write the
rules. If a given working
did not agree on pro-
cedure, the authority would
and its final response
would be with the
member of the day.
The committee has set many
rules, taken evidence from
interests, public and
It was born from a
report several years ago,
which raised the question of
the use of computers
in the dangers for individual
sections of the com-
munity have delayed
until the committee's
are made public. There
are strong pressures on
Government, despite
of an impending
election, to publish the
as soon as possible and
the Administration's
lead in.



Combines half way through the winter barley harvest at North Stock Farm, Wallingford, Oxfordshire.

Judge challenges academics over ways of resolving scientific issues in court

From Pearce Wright
Science Editor
Harlech
Imperfections in the present
method of resolving scientific
and technical issues in litigation
and public inquiries were
outlined on Saturday by Mr.
Justice Parker, opening a summer
school at Coleg Harlech, Gwynedd,
on science and society. But the judge,
who presided over the Windscale
inquiry and the Flixborough
tribunal, challenged an
audience of senior research
workers, university lecturers
and science teachers in an
address entitled "Scientific
expertise and the judiciary", to
suggest a better way of resolving
controversies.
One of the main issues
under discussion this week is
the appropriateness of the
present form of public inquiry for
examining increasingly com-
plex subjects, particularly with
the Government's expected
announcement on the form of
the inquiry that has been
promised for a commercial fast
breeder reactor programme.
In defending the present system,
Mr Justice Parker
referred to a recent suggestion
that there were some technological
developments of great
public importance that should

not be left in the hands of
lawyers. He said there was
nothing new in a technically
unqualified judge being asked
to decide between experts. The
process was becoming more
complicated with the increase
of scientific and technical
knowledge. A technical matter
that took an hour to settle 20
years ago could run into
hours or days now.
As to the amount of expert
evidence given, the burden on
the judge increased. But the
judge's qualifications were
forged over the years at the
Bar from the moment "some-
one with a gambling instinct
entrusted him with his first
scientific case".
He believed a combination of
cross-examining lawyer, expert
witness, and judge produced a
satisfactory outcome in most
litigation. He added: "It is not
perfect."
He gave a caution against
replacing a process to cure one
defect by a procedure that
might create many others.
On public inquiries, he said
Windscale was the most bur-
densome task he had under-
taken. He described the pre-
paration, beginning in February
last year, with part-time back-
ground reading to understand
the terms used. It was neces-

sary to have a proper under-
standing of vocabulary such as
transuramics and microcuries
to follow the drift of cross-ex-
amination. Otherwise confidence
would be lost in your ability to
control an inquiry.
The full-time stage began
when the proofs of evidence
started to come in to be in-
dexed and annotated. Once the
inquiry started, new evidence
and transcripts had to be read
in the evenings, and between
rising at 5 am and the start of
the sitting at 9.30 am, and dur-
ing weekends.
After the hearing was over
it was not necessary to reread
in preparing the report. The
proofs had been read twice
and the transcripts three or
four times. "By then, if you
do not know enough you
should not have embarked on
the case in the first place".
In a public inquiry the judge
had technical assessors to help
him. Mr Justice Parker said
that the assessors at Windscale
and Flixborough made his life
supportable.
It was plain that lawyers
could not get on without scien-
tists. He believed that the com-
bination of lawyer with scien-
tist was the most satisfactory
process available for exami-
nation of public issues.

Scott police to see Sir Harold

By a Staff Reporter
Detectives investigating the
Norman Scott affair are
reported to have been given
permission by the Director of
Public Prosecutions to examine
the political background to the
affair and to interview public
figures, including Sir Harold
Wilson.
A report from the Avon and
Somerset police had been pre-
pared for Mr Tony Hetherington,
QC, the DPP, after an in-
vestigation started last
October.
The DPP was asked to con-
sider whether the inquiry
should be broadened to place
the affair in its political con-
text. Yesterday police said that
the report was still with the
DPP.
It is believed that the DPP
and counsel examining the
report have agreed that the
police should see Sir Harold,
Lady Falkender, Mr David
Steel, leader of the Liberal
Party, and Mr Cyril Smith,
Liberal MP for Rochdale.
The police investigation
began when Mr Andrew New-
son, a former pilot, said he
had been hired to kill Mr
Scott, a former male model.

Tory change of mind on immigrants register

By Peter Evans
The Conservative Party has
changed one of its more con-
troversial immigration proposals.
The register of dependants
wishing to enter Britain will not
be limited by an incoming Tory
administration, as was originally
announced. The intention now
is to apply it to other Common-
wealth countries as well.
The change is disclosed by
Mr William Whitelaw, shadow
Home Secretary, in a letter to
Mr Kanti Nagda, secretary
general of the Confederation of
Indian Organizations (UK).
The letter comes after a meet-
ing on Wednesday between
representatives of the confeder-
ation and other Indian commu-
nity leaders with Mr Whitelaw
and Mr Keith Speed, another
Conservative spokesman, on
home affairs.
Mr Tara Mukherjee, president
of the confederation, said yester-
day that he had pointed out to
them that the proposal as it
stood discriminated against
people from the Indian subcon-
tinent.
The Conservative attitude has
been that since most of the
eligible dependants would be
coming from the subcontinent
it would be sensible to find
exactly how many, to allow dis-
cussion. But there was no need
to extend the register to cover
dependants from elsewhere be-
cause numbers would be much
fewer.
Limiting the register to the
subcontinent has upset many
Asians. The Conservatives
badly need their vote in certain
key marginal seats in the next
general election.
Mr Mukherjee said the idea
of the register was to assess
numbers of wives and depen-
dant children of heads of house-
holds settled in Britain before
January 1, 1973, who were en-
titled to enter the country
under the Immigration Act, 1971.
Mr Whitelaw acknowledged
there were heads of households
originating from outside the
subcontinent and subject to im-
migration control who settled
in Britain before that date;
they might wish to bring in
their dependants.
Mr Whitelaw had now pro-
mised, that a Conservative govern-
ment would include in the register
Commonwealth heads of house-
holds with such rights, wherever
they came from.
Mr Whitelaw said in April
that the register would be com-
pulsory for wives and children
eligible for entry from the sub-
continent. If people did not
apply within a year for entry
the entitlement would end.

Counting the cost of more open government

By Peter Hennessy
An indication of Whitehall's
specific objection to the United
States Freedom of Information
Act, 1966 and 1974, and the
model for future British legis-
lation on open government,
began to appear last week in
spite of the refusal of the Home
Office and Civil Service Depart-
ment to publish background
papers used in drafting last
week's White Paper on official
secrecy.
The Civil Service Department,
it seems, in advising ministers
that British freedom of infor-
mation legislation would incur
unacceptably high adminis-
trative costs, has concentrated on
the experiences in Washington
of the Department of Justice,
the Federal Bureau of Investi-
gation and the State Depart-
ment.
In a letter on "disclosure of
information", elaborating the
Government's present openness
policy on July 6, last year
(under which requests for back-
ground material on official
secrecy were lodged last week),
Sir Douglas Allen (now Lord
Croham), who was then head
of the Home Civil Service, de-
scribed the American legislation
as "formidably burdensome".
Mr Arthur Lewis, Labour MP
for Newham North West, and
chairman of the Parliamentary
All-Party Committee for Free-
dom of Information, wrote to
Lord Croham on October 22,
1977, asking him to explain the
phrase, Lord Croham replied on
November 1 that "formidably
burdensome" was his descrip-
tion of the administrative
effects, which few would dis-
agree had added significantly to
costs in Washington, and not a
judgment of the intrinsic merits
of American statutes.
The correspondence, which
Mr Lewis has released to *The
Times*, contains the following
personal impression given by
Lord Croham:
I have recently been studying the
workings of the Act while on
visit to Washington. I talked to
a number of departments about it
and was given a substantial
volume of documents about its
operation, covering for instance
the rules for departments to
observe, the numbers of inquiries
received and the number of cases
which had been appealed. Here
are a few illustrative statistics
which I was given. The Federal
Bureau of Investigation alone
has 400 staff engaged full
time on freedom of information
work, and there are considerable
calls made on the time of other
staff, particularly those at senior
level. All this adds up to a con-
siderable increase in staffing
requirements.
The State Department—many of
whose records are not accessible
under the Act as they contain
information of a sensitive nature
about foreign governments—es-
timated that freedom of infor-
mation work costs it about \$1m a
year. Search charges and photo-
copy charges are usually made in



Lord Croham: study of Washington methods.

all departments, but it was
explained to me that these were
very much less than the full costs
incurred.
The Civil Service Depart-
ment's unofficial estimate of
the present cost of United
States legislation, which is not
mentioned in Lord Croham's
letter, is about \$150m a year.
That figure has been
challenged as too high by Mr
Roger Darlington, former
special adviser to Mr Merlyn
Rees, who offered an alterna-
tive view to the Home Secre-
tary on secrets reform.
Lord Croham sent Mr Lewis
the 1976 report to Congress
from the United States Justice
Department on the working of
freedom of information to illus-
trate his point that the Act
was being used for purposes
that Congress had not intended.
It states that the legislation
has been used by com-
panies engaged in anti-trust
(monopoly) disputes and by
individuals under investigation.
It describes a steep rise in
the manpower expended on
requests made to the depart-
ment under freedom of
information and privacy Act
from 120,000 in 1975 to 607,000
in 1976. "We continue to be
deeply disturbed by the adverse
impact that the expenditure of
such quantities of our resources
is bound to have on the depart-
ment's ability to carry out its
assigned substantive missions."
Lord Croham's letter to Mr
Lewis ends with the reminder
that his description of Ameri-
can legislation as "formidably
burdensome" was used "in the
context of a letter I wrote to
permanent secretaries, on the
Prime Minister's authority, to
advise on the implementation
of his pledge in November,
1976, to publish factual and
background material to major
policy studies and to impres-
sion on them that a real change in
policy was intended".

The new Opel Rekord. A great shape for a big Estate to be in.



No luxury saloon was ever more ideally suited to become an estate than the Rekord. The saloon's excellent handling characteristics lend themselves naturally to an estate version so that the driver has none of that feeling



of driving with a box bolted on the back. Concern over handling is something we at Opel take very seriously indeed. The Rekord's stylish good looks, in fact, are the

result of an exhaustive wind-tunnel testing programme carried out to cut down wind resistance to an absolute minimum. Which means better handling, lower fuel consumption and a quieter ride. The Rekord is also available in petrol or diesel engine versions. The 2 litre petrol engine delivers a useful 100 bhp, while the diesel is one of the most refined of its type in the world, with easy starting and very low running noise.
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Thanks to Opel's highly sophisticated, computerised nation wide parts network, spares are no problem either. As for servicing, the Rekord Estate needs only 3 hours



per year spent on it for the average motorist. Now you know a little about the Rekord Estate, come and see it in real life. Just ring 01-580 5221 for the name of your nearest dealer. And let him show you around.

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Government fuel consumption test.

	Imperial mpg		metric L/100km	
	Urban	56mph	75mph	Urban
Estate 2.0S	22.2	38.2	28.0	Urban 90K/L 120K/L
				12.7 7.4 10.1



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HOME NEWS

Labour election pledge on comprehensive disability aid likely

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Labour Party appears likely to go into the general election committed to introducing a comprehensive disability benefit. The proposal has been approved by the party's social policy subcommittee and is expected to come before the home policy committee this week.

The idea is supported by Mr Alfred Morris, Under-Secretary of State for the Disabled, whose department is considering an autumn seminar to discuss the options. An internal review at the Department of Health and Social Security has concluded that a general costs allowance for all disabled people is needed because the present mixture of benefits creates confusion and anomalies.

With support growing for a comprehensive disability benefit, the Government is expected to reject the alternative proposals of the Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injury (the Pearson report). Decisions are likely to be deferred until the autumn.

It is understood that the Government dislikes the two main Pearson proposals on the grounds that they would create more anomalies and administrative difficulties. The Pearson proposal for a state compensation scheme for victims of road accidents would leave out those injured by other causes, and the £4-a-week allowance for severely disabled children could prove unworkable because it would have to include an upper age limit.

A comprehensive disability benefit has been Labour Party policy for five years, but it has been ruled out because of cost. Instead, several benefits have been introduced as steps towards a comprehensive scheme. The department estimated last year that a comprehensive scheme would cost £2,000m a year, but the figure was based partly on the assumption that it would cover the 3,500,000 physically or mentally handicapped people now receiving some kind of state benefit.

Contrasting Tory views on interventionism

By Our Political Editor

The divide between Tory moderate and the out-and-out free market ideologue is starkly illuminated today in contrasting reviews of the same work by Sir Ian Gilmour and Sir Keith Joseph. Published in the summer issue of *Crossbow*, organ of the Tory Bow Group, the reviews by two members of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's Shadow Cabinet differ diametrically in their appreciations of state interventionism.

Writing about the first English translation of the *Critique of Interventionism* by Ludwig von Mises, published 50 years ago, Sir Keith Joseph evidently embraces its denunciations as gospel: "He is led to argue that there are really only two choices: the capitalist market order or socialism, and that any middle way, what he calls the 'hampster market order', because of its ever-spreading car's cradle of controls, is only a stage on the way to interventionism."

The extent of counter-productive intervention has vastly increased since von Mises

wrote. Our capitalism is not just hampered, it is crippled by massive unemployment—by politicians, civil servants, many academics, many commentators, most trade union leaders and shop stewards and many businessmen—of the indispensable link between freedom and free enterprise: of rising productivity as the only source of rising standards of living.

Sir Ian ridicules von Mises as "the Karl Marx of capitalism". He adds: "Both were incurably dogmatic and hence incapable of seeing that what was going on around them was disproving their dogma."

"Mises's vision of a completely laissez-faire world, without any controls on capital, immigration or anything else, and without any protection for the weak, has as much to do with reality as the 'hampster market order'." There was, of course, ample evidence by the time Mises wrote that this was "quite untrue; and the last 50 years have proved it to be nonsense."

Full details are expected to be published later this year. The alliance, which is an organization of nearly 60 groups, believes the scheme shows that a comprehensive cover is now a matter of practical politics.

WEST EUROPE

Brittany bombs mark wind-up of Bretons' trial

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, July 23

As 14 Breton autonomists await sentence this week in a bomb trial here, two more bomb attacks have taken place in Brittany, presumably as gestures of defiance against French justice.

Both took place in south Finistère yesterday, one against the gendarmerie building at Bannalec, about 20 miles south-east of Quimper, and the other at Quimper itself against the building housing the law courts and the gendarmerie. There was no loss of life but damage was extensive.

Breton autonomists have not claimed responsibility for the latest bomb attacks, but they follow a familiar pattern.

At Bannalec and Quimper an explosive device was placed on the window sill of the building. At Bannalec, the seat of a gendarme, sleeping in the room when the first explosion took place, was injured in the leg. Two flats were devastated and windows smashed in the area.

At Quimper, the law courts were extensively damaged. A witness saw two men place a parcel on the window ledge. He hurried back to bed when he realized what was going to happen. Three men later returned to the scene to assess the damage and enter witness statements. The witness noted part of the number plate of their car.

M Louis Le Pen, a Socialist member of Parliament for Finistère, said in a statement today that such acts were indefensible and must be condemned without reservation: "It is not by hurting it that one improves democracy," he said. "Violence is a dead end, and repression leads nowhere. The problem is political, and calls for a political solution."

Bonifacio, Corsica: A bomb which police believe was set off by Corsican secessionists damaged the French Foreign Legion's war memorial here yesterday. Another explosion damaged the offices of a sailing school for tourists. The owner said he had received threatening letters from secessionists.—Reuter.

Recompense for those jailed for helping escapes

From Our Correspondent
Berlin, July 23

People who have served prison terms in East Germany for helping or trying to help East Germans escape can be compensated under the West German law on assistance to refugees today. Another explosion damaged the offices of a sailing school for tourists. The owner said he had received threatening letters from secessionists.—Reuter.

This was the ruling of the Federal Administrative Court hearing a claim by some people imprisoned in 1971.

The court said that Germans should obey East German rules on the safeguarding of work, supplies, public safety and order. But the freedom to leave the country was a different matter, it decided, saying that individuals should have the chance to leave if they denied the possibility of developing his own personality, politics or religion.

Ski champion hurt

Martigny, July 23.—The Swiss ski champion, Lieke-Marie Mörner, aged 28, was seriously hurt in a car collision involving a British motorist near this Alpine village yesterday.

France refuses to confirm or deny nuclear test

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, July 23

The Defence Ministry has refused to confirm or deny that an underground nuclear device was tested by France in the Pacific recently. This has been its standard practice ever since the start of the testing in 1966 on Mururoa or neighbouring atolls in French Polynesia began being carried out underground instead of in the atmosphere.

According to the ministry, the nuclear or nuclear testing is no longer dependent on atmospheric conditions, and can therefore take place, throughout the year as technological requirements demand. In the past, weather and winds had to be reckoned with to avoid the risk of atmospheric pollution.

The Defence Ministry also recalled that the Foreign Minister told the National Assembly last November that France would continue nuclear testing so long as this was necessary to maintain the credibility of the national deterrent.

It went on to point out that the present series of nuclear tests had two main objectives: the miniaturization of the nuclear warheads of the future, which would be carried by French nuclear submarines from around 1985, and to "harden" the warheads to make them proof against anti-nuclear missiles.

New call for Pétain rehabilitation

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, July 23

Sixty years ago the Allies launched the offensive which was to lead to victory in the First World War. This operation would not have been possible without the complete reorganization of the French Army by Marshal Pétain, following the serious mutinies of 1917.

This was stated by M Jean Borotra, the former tennis champion who was Minister for Education and Sports in the Vichy Government during the German occupation in the 1940s. He was speaking at a ceremony at the marshal's graveside in the fortress of the Ile d'Yeu, off the coast of Brittany, where he died in captivity in 1951 at the age of 84.

M Borotra, president of the Association to Defend the Memory of Marshal Pétain, said that the marshal's counsel at his treason trial in 1945, he has for years tried to secure the transfer of the ashes of the hero of Verdun to the Fort de Douaumont, in accordance with his last wishes.



Hitler portrait seized at West German neo-Nazi rally.

Neo-Nazis in clash with police

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, July 23

Fighting between neo-Nazis and police at Lennhofen in northern Germany yesterday ended with at least 10 injured people on both sides, the temporary detention of most of the 100 extremists and the devastation of the beer hall in which the clash occurred when police entered to break up a banned rally.

The Action Front of National Socialists had been scheduled to unveil a Hitler memorial tablet and to found a party in Hamburg, but tried to hold a meeting in the small community of Lennhofen in Schleswig-Holstein. The hall was decorated with swastikas, its doors were locked and its windows boarded.

About 100 young people attended, organized by the former Bundeswehr officer, Herr Michael Kühn. They were dressed in black and some wore black steel helmets and balaclavas. Local police reinforced by police from Hamburg broke through the doors they were attacked with bottles, glasses, chairs and sticks.

Police confiscated a portrait of Hitler found on the premises. Some of the members of the group may be charged with breach of the peace.

Herr Kurt Lischke, aged 60, a former SS leader, is to go on trial in Cologne on charges of Hitler found on the premises. He was charged with the murder of 33,000 people when in a responsible position in the security service in occupied France.

Drug smuggling ring sentenced by Swiss court

Geneva, July 23.—Three Britons and a British-born Israeli arrested in a Geneva hotel last March and accused of belonging to a marijuana-smuggling ring were jailed here yesterday.

The four, who did not contest the charges, were: David Lloyd, aged 34, living in Amsterdam, jailed for four years; Clive Cullum, aged 28, and Michael MacNally, aged 32, both of London, sentenced to 30 months; and Charles Cohen, aged 30, an Israeli, given a four-year sentence.

Police arrested them as they gathered to transfer 50 kilograms (110lb) of marijuana, flown in from Thailand, to cars with hidden compartments, the prosecution said. Mr Cohen flew the drugs in from Bangkok, Mr Lloyd supervised the Geneva operation and Mr Cullum and Mr MacNally were to drive the cars.—Reuter.

Lisbon counts its gains after Giscard visit

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, July 23

The visit of President Giscard d'Estaing to Lisbon which ended this weekend, has proved to be one of the most fruitful international visits of recent times.

Not only did the French leader assure the Portuguese of full protection for their 750,000 immigrant workers in France and of France's desire that Portugal should enter the European Community; he also announced that France would make a \$100m (£55m) loan to Portugal.

The financial aid will take the form of a loan in bank loans and \$35m as easier terms. The aim is to help Portugal's balance of payments deficit.

During his visit the French president held intensive talks with President Eanes and Dr Mario Soares, the Prime Minister, while the French Ministers of Foreign Affairs, universities,

industry and Foreign Trade discussed ways to increase collaboration with their Portuguese counterparts.

The conversations between President Giscard d'Estaing and President Eanes ranged from international affairs in general through the subjects of nuclear and solar energy, Portugal's future entry into the EEC and the country's new importance in African affairs since the recent talks between President Eanes and President Agostinho Neto of Angola on an rapprochement between Angola and Portugal.

It is understood that subjects such as France's interest in Portugal's mining, chemicals and steel industries were also discussed, by Dr Soares, along with prospects for closer economic relations.

M Giscard d'Estaing has invited President Eanes and his wife to pay an official visit to France.

Two terror groups thought linked in Madrid killings

Madrid, July 23.—Investigators today considered the possibility of a link between Spain's two most active guerrilla groups in the murder in Madrid last Friday of an army general and his aide, informed sources said.

The Basque separatist organization ETA claimed responsibility for the killing of General Juan Sánchez Ramos Izquierdo, aged 64, and Lieutenant-Colonel Juan Pich, aged 58, saying it was in revenge for recent police action in the Basque country. But police sources said clues to the killers—two men and a young woman—also pointed to the extreme left-wing Grapo.

ETA made its claim in a statement sent to news media. Police said the four-page statement was authentic.

The group had not claimed any killings outside the Basque country since its guerrilla assassinated Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco, General Franco's Prime Minister, by blowing up his car outside a Madrid church in December 1973.

At the funeral of General Sánchez Ramos Izquierdo yesterday several thousand ultra-rightists shouted for the Army to take power and denounced the Government.—Reuter.

Summit meeting in Paris on education

By Mark Jackson of
The Times Educational Supplement

The first summit meeting of Western ministers of education is to be held in Paris in the autumn. It will review educational policies throughout the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries in the light of youth unemployment and industrial change.

The key question that the ministers will be asked to discuss is whether education and training can do anything to reduce significantly the total of seven million jobless under-25s in the Western world.

A preparatory meeting of senior officials held earlier this month has urged the ministers to recognize that although improving vocational education is essential for other reasons, it cannot create more jobs.

Portuguese ex-President returns from exile

From Jossie Shercliff
Lisbon, July 23

Admiral Américo Tomás, former President of Portugal, slipped quietly into Lisbon today after four years of exile in Brazil. When the Brazilian Airline Varig airliner touched down, two figures, Admiral Tomás and his wife, were seen to leave it and enter a car which left the airport under police escort by private exit.

They are believed to have gone to Bucaco, north of Lisbon, to an hotel which was once a royal hunting lodge and formerly a favourite retreat of the former president.

The return of Admiral Tomás taken by President Eanes at the end of May that his 83-year-old predecessor should be allowed to return to Portugal. At the same time his assets, which had been frozen here, were released.

Immediately after the revolution of April 25, 1974, which overthrew the old regime, Admiral Tomás, with his wife and daughter, were flown to Madeira with the then Prime Minister, Dr Marcello Caetano. Later they were allowed to leave for exile, which was granted to them in Brazil.

Dr Caetano has now settled permanently in Brazil as a university professor. The Tomás family, however, lived in a hotel on money provided by wealthy Portuguese immigrants in Brazil.

The decision to allow Admiral Tomás to return caused a political stir here, particularly among ultra-left wing elements, who violently opposed it. Parties more to the centre and right, including the followers of the Socialist Prime Minister, Dr Mario Soares, accepted it as a humane decision.

Nevertheless Lisbon was pasted with caricature posters of the former president and his family, and a protest march through the city against his return was organized.

Pope sees Mrs Carter

Rome, July 23.—Mrs Lillian Carter, mother of the American President, left Italy today for Morocco after an audience with the Pope which she described as "the most moving moment of my life".

She is accused of conspiring to obtain more than 130 Jeeps, without paying cost or hire fees, for campaign purposes during last year's general election.

Five others also charged were Mr F. C. Senti, who was her campaign manager, and two business men.

The charges were made under the Prevention of Corruption Act and the penal code. Mrs Carter was charged with the investigation by the Shakh Commission of Inquiry, which has already initiated preliminary charges against Mrs Gandhi relating to alleged excesses, such as illegal arrests, during her 19-month emergency.

The "Jeep" case conforms with the Janata Government's strategy of seeking to damage

the Congress Party's reputation.

It is understood that subjects such as France's interest in Portugal's mining, chemicals and steel industries were also discussed, by Dr Soares, along with prospects for closer economic relations.

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OVERSEAS

CIA link seen in death of British journalist

From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, July 23

Ann Chapman, the 25-year-old English freelance journalist found murdered in an Athens suburb in 1971, may have been killed by the Greek secret services acting on orders of the American Central Intelligence Agency, according to Mr Sadi Kocas, who was Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey at the time of the killing.

Mr Kocas, a former member of Parliament and Turkish Army staff colonel well informed on intelligence matters, said, in an interview in Istanbul, that this version of the murder was reported to him in a letter he received soon after Miss Chapman's death "from an Englishman who refused to identify himself for fear that he, too, would be killed by Miss Chapman's murderers."

The letter was accompanied by photocopies of two American Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) documents concerning Turkey, which Miss Chapman had allegedly given to the author of the letter "to examine", adding that she planned to send them and others to the Turkish "so they will understand what kind of a Government they trust."

The Englishman who wrote to Mr Kocas said that Miss Chapman gave him the documents on the eve of her death, and that she had been immediately. The letter and the documents were posted from Vienna, Mr Kocas said, and another accompanying letter, as well as the originals of the documents, were sent to the Turkish Embassy in Ankara.

Mr Kocas keeps the documents locked in two separate

Mrs Gandhi charged with 'election Jeeps' conspiracy

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, July 23

Mrs Indira Gandhi has been summoned to appear in a Delhi court on August 23 on charges of criminal conspiracy and abuse of her official position as India's former Prime Minister.

She is accused of conspiring to obtain more than 130 Jeeps, without paying cost or hire fees, for campaign purposes during last year's general election.

Five others also charged were Mr F. C. Senti, who was her campaign manager, and two business men.

The charges were made under the Prevention of Corruption Act and the penal code. Mrs Carter was charged with the investigation by the Shakh Commission of Inquiry, which has already initiated preliminary charges against Mrs Gandhi relating to alleged excesses, such as illegal arrests, during her 19-month emergency.

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£150 inscribes the name of someone dear to you on the Dedication Plaque of the Day Centre it helps.

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SEAS Americans puzzled by w Sadat approach resumption of talks

Joseph Walker
At no time has Mr. Sadat indicated clearly whether or not Egypt would attend the scheduled new round of peace negotiations, but he again denied firmly that Egypt would enter into any bi-lateral agreement with Israel.

His remarks were interpreted in a pessimistic vein, forcing the earlier widely held belief that he is intent on putting maximum pressure on the Carter administration to persuade the Israelis to show some flexibility on the key issues of Palestinian rights and the status of Arab land occupied in 1967.

Michael Knappe writes from Jerusalem: The Israeli Cabinet today rejected a request by President Sadat that a gesture of goodwill be made to return the Sinai to Egypt.

Mr. Sadat said bluntly afterwards: "Nobody can get anything for nothing." He closed, however, that he had sent a message to President Sadat calling for a continuation of the effort to reach a peace agreement.

Israel, he said, was willing for further negotiations either in Cairo and Jerusalem, Alexandria and Haifa or any other place considered suitable by the Egyptian leader.

Answering questions Mr. Begin expressed confidence that another meeting of the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers would be held soon and said the Government had accepted the proposal made by Mr. Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, that the Egyptian and Israeli defence ministers should attend the next meeting which would again involve American participation.

Japanese plan army move Syrians shell Beirut

July 23—President Assad will head a military move to decide when a Syrian army will be sent to Lebanon, it was announced today.

The move will be attended by Mr. Assad, the Prime Minister and Mr. Fuad Boutros, the Minister of Defence.

A confirmed in a state-press report by Beirut that the army force is soon in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for the withdrawal of forces that invaded south Lebanon in March and also for the helping the Lebanese Government to restore the area.

It is estimated 1,000 Syrian soldiers near the border, said yesterday, were being directed by the Lebanese army.

Dr. Hoss said no reference to the militia's threat, but said that sending the army to the south was a national necessity in order to ensure security at a crucial stage.

The Lebanese army for safety in the south, when shells crashed into Hadath, the Christian district of east Beirut, shattering a 12-hour lull in the latest round of fighting between Syrian troops and the Lebanese militia.

The rights Phalangist radio said that at least 100 people were killed and more than 500 wounded in the shelling.

It said the shelling stopped after President Sarkis had conferred with the commander of the Arab peace force, but was resumed half an hour later on Hadath and the nearby districts of Hazmeh and Babda.

39 Sithole supporters massacred by guerrillas

From Frederick Cleary Salisbury, July 23
Thirty-nine unarmed members of the Zimbabwe African National Union supporting the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole have been murdered by guerrillas in the eastern part of Rhodesia, according to reports published here which were cleared by military censors.

The black civilians were on political work, promoting the transitional Government and the eventual changeover to black rule at the end of the year.

According to one source, the bodies, all wearing tee-shirts with the Zanu emblem, were lined up on a roadside.

The massacre is believed to have occurred during the long Rhodes and Founders holiday weekend earlier this month but the news has only just been released. Follow-up operations were mounted resulting in a number of guerrillas being killed.

Crack units of the security forces are being used, the military command announced yesterday. In the past week a total of 151 guerrillas had been accounted for.

The death of the Zanu youths follows similar murders by guerrillas of supporters of organizations whose leaders were signatories to the internal settlement accord in March.

The general election, the first leading to majority rule, will be in early December, according to Mr. Rowan Crojke, the minister heading a special committee handling the timetable to independence. The referendum asking the 80,000 white electorate to approve the new constitution may be in November.

The fact that the total opposition vote of 564 exceeded that of the winning Rhodesian Front candidate (545) in last Friday's Salisbury Highlands North by-election indicates an uphill battle in extracting from the white electorate its approval of the new constitution.

Zambia denies it considers expelling envoy

From Our Correspondent Lusaka, July 23
The Zambian Government has denied a report published in the Times last week that President Kaunda had seriously considered expelling Mr. Vassili Solodovnikov, the Soviet ambassador.

Sources said that Mr. Solodovnikov had warned Dr. Kaunda of an impending coup in an effort to cancel a cancellation of the Zambian leader's visits to Britain and the United States.

A government statement said that President Kaunda was never warned of such an alleged danger by the Soviet Ambassador, and called the report "not only untrue, but a malicious fabrication."

Move to end aid to Vietnam and Albania shows growth of self-interest China closes purse as own house needs repair

From David Bonavia Hongkong, July 23
China shows signs of increasing nationalism in which the country's own interests are put before high-minded programmes of foreign assistance.

Ordinary people on the mainland have welcomed the Government's decision to end aid to Vietnam and Albania. Such assistance was always popular among the inhabitants of what is still quite a poor country, though political rhetoric made people wary of expressing their resentment.

Between them, Vietnam and Albania have accounted for hundreds of millions of pounds worth of Chinese aid in the past few years. The money is now needed to buy arms from West Europe, in order to bridge the huge gap between Chinese and Soviet weapons technology. (The British vertical takeoff aircraft, one of the items still under consideration by the Chinese Air Force.)

The Chinese economy is a long way from recovering from the policies of the last 12 years, during which time standards of living have shown no appreciable improvement, and for many people declined.

Recent reports of food shortages can be explained by the growing population, which is not being offset by needed improvements in agriculture.

Chinese people from Hongkong who have recently visited the mainland report a decline in food supplies even in Peking, where only a few ounces of pork can be bought at a time.

The national press has exhorted the people to eat more. Factory-made bread, partly on the grounds that it helps to economize on grain by using scarce varieties of meat. This suggests that a bad harvest is expected.

It has been officially admitted for the first time that birth control is needed to conserve resources, rather than for purely social reasons. Wage rises promised last year have been small, and the mounting expectations of the people seem likely to be met only in a modest fashion.

This year has marked the end of an era in Chinese foreign policy, which necessarily affects the internal situation. The bitter dispute with Vietnam has brought the country to the brink of war, an eventuality for which the population are still kept mentally prepared.

At the same time, the economy has had the heaviest burden of feeding and housing about 160,000 Chinese who have left Vietnam under pressure from the authorities there. The agreement at the weekend to begin formal talks with Vietnam on the Chinese minority problem suggests that still more will come to China in the near future.

The prospects of more fighting between Vietnam and Cambodia are strong, and this time China may not be content to voice concern and disapproval. The several thousand Chinese "engineering" troops already in Cambodia may be reinforced, and China will probably have to cope with incidents on its frontiers with Vietnam and perhaps Laos.

The decision to end aid to Vietnam is easily justified, but the rift with Albania is more difficult to explain. Most people in China who think about such things will not regret it. In any case, Chairman Hua Kuo-feng is soon to be faced in both Yugoslavia and Romania.

In Africa, Soviet and Cuban intervention has overshadowed the results of the expensive Tannan railway project, of which China was once so proud.

Prisoners of conscience



Niger: Diibo Bakary

By Clifford Longley
The Marxist-oriented Savana Party in Niger has persistently campaigned against the French connexion in the west African state before and since its independence from France.

Many of its members have been harassed or arrested, first by the French colonial authorities, and later by the Niger government.

Mr. Diibo Bakary is typical of Savana Party members who have won the disfavour of the authorities. He was its leader until it was banned by the French in 1959, specifically because of its campaign against retaining strong political and economic ties with France. He went into exile and only returned to Niger after 15 years on the overthrow of President Hamani Diori in April, 1974.

He was allowed limited freedom by the authorities on his return, ordered to remain in Niamey, the capital, and not to engage in political activities. But he was arrested after less than a year and has been held in prison without trial since 1975.

The allegations against him are of corruption, intimidating an official and attempting to reform his banned political party. The authorities claim he was engaged in a conspiracy against the regime at the time of his arrest.

At the same time 18 others were arrested on similar charges and 14 of these are known still to be in detention without trial. Mr. Bakary is reported to be held in an isolated town near Lake Chad.

Egypt enraged by assault on football team

From Our Own Correspondent Cairo, July 23
Egypt's relations with both Libya and Algeria worsened dramatically over the weekend as a result of football violence seen live on television.

After being beaten 1-0 by Egypt in the African Games, now being held in Algeria, the Libyan footballers launched an assault on their opponents. The Algerian police have been accused of doing nothing to prevent the assault.

All Egyptian teams participating in the African Games were ordered home immediately by Mr. Mamduh Salem, the Prime Minister.

Moderates prevail at OAU

Nairobi, July 23—The moderate states firmly asserted the voice of the majority at the fifteenth summit conference of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which ended in Khartoum at the weekend.

Though African leaders found no answers to their problems at the five-day meeting, they faced most of the issues squarely in stormy sessions. Several of the 24 leaders attending said this in the long run could lead to African solidarity—the basic aim of the OAU.

The largely French-speaking moderate group came as well prepared for verbal combat as the radical states which have left a strong imprint on the language of the OAU in recent years.

The dominant issue was outside military intervention. But the radicals failed to persuade the conference to condemn the presence of 10,000 French troops on the continent or draw any fundamental distinction between their role in Africa and that of some 50,000 Cuban troops.

Congo led the assault on French military forays into Chad, Mauritania and Zaire's Shaba province, by attacking neo-colonialist manoeuvres and interventions in Africa.

Mozambique followed this up with the only stereotypical Marxist condemnation of imperialism and neo-colonialism heard at the conference.

But President Agostinho Neto of Angola, saying he would ask for more Cuban troops to boost the 20,000 already in his country if they were needed, told a news conference that states with defence agreements with France were free to call in French troops if they wanted.



President Boumedienne (left) of Algeria being greeted by President Tito on arrival in Belgrade, where he briefed the Yugoslav leader on the outcome of the Khartoum summit.

Mr. Ali Abdul Salam Tureiki, Libyan Foreign Secretary, prompted the most acrimonious exchanges on the subject but eventually alienated many delegations by alleging that Chad's leaders banked Libyan gifts meant for Moslems in Sudan.

Ethiopia, another radical state represented only at foreign minister level at a meeting where rank carries weight, backed the general radical thesis, but sounded off with a lone assault on overstay their welcome. Africa is not about to throw off one colonial yoke for another.

With the radicals in slight disarray, the African leaders agreed that every state had the right to call in help from any country.

The summit made little progress in trying to end wars and disputes between neighbouring states—Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania over the western Sahara; between Ethiopia and Somalia over the Ogaden desert; between Libya and Chad over the Aouzou strip; and between Ethiopia and Sudan.

But it also rejected the temptation to mar the organization's record on decolonization by supporting liberation movements in the Spanish Canary Islands and on the French Indian Ocean islands of Reunion and Mayotte.

Mr. Bode Kodjo, the Togo Foreign Minister, was elected Secretary-General of the OAU for a four-year term. Mr. Kodjo, aged 45, is a French-trained civil servant and succeeds Mr. William Eteki Mboumou of Cameroon, who has stepped down.—Reuters

Rhodesian civil servants planning hopelessly for defeat

From page 1
Rhodesian civil servants are planning for a hopeless kind of defeat, according to a report from a Rhodesian commander and a commissioner.

The civil level of the Rhodesian Government has been rocked by a series of financial scandals involving the salaries of the civil servants. It is a scandal which is being exposed by the press and the public. The Rhodesian Government is planning for a hopeless kind of defeat.

mean. With the best will in the world they could not deliver what is being asked of them. The internal agreement cannot deliver the goods.

The deterioration of white morale is most clear away from the seat of government, in the other main city of Bulawayo, nearly 300 miles to the west. The Zippa guerrillas are loyal to Mr. Joshua Nkomo. They are simply closing down the country area by area and have now reached the borders of the city itself.

In this part of the country nothing operates. Neither schools, nor district offices, nor dip-tanks nor services run by permission of the guerrillas on certain days only, and the population is closely controlled. Much of the property has not been destroyed but merely evacuated and abandoned against the day when it will be required by new regime. But abandoned property does not remain long intact in the tropics and soon little of value will be left.

The guerrilla strategy is producing great hardship for the local people because crops have not been good in some areas. In the past, villagers could rely on their cattle or goats. They could bring beasts to town and sell them for good prices, the security forces will allow any grain to be transported into the rural areas for fear of its being used to feed guerrillas. This is a recipe for starvation.

It seems clear that this strategy seeks a swift end to the war. No grant ideological commitment is asked of the local people—simple obedience and suffering for a limited period and a definite end. In confirmation of this I was strongly pressed by members of the executive of internal Zanu (Mr. Nkomo's political arm) to challenge the British Government to intervene to precipitate the decolonization process.

It is this Zippa strategy which is having the dramatic effect on white morale. Heads of educational institutions in Bulawayo itself do not expect to be able to remain open much longer. Whites understand this as a war which they are losing.

The aims and objects of the Zanu guerrillas loyal to Mr. Robert Mugabe are much more difficult to understand and interpret. They have been in the field much longer, and

Races polarized after election in Malaysia

From Our Correspondent Kuala Lumpur, July 23
Malaysia's ruling National Front coalition, led by Datuk Hussein Oni, the Prime Minister, will have 121 seats in the 154-member semi-parliament due to meet at the end of the month for its first sitting after this month's general election.

The three-stage elections were completed last night when the Front won all but one of the 24 seats at stake in Sarawak. That one seat was won by the newly formed Sarawak People's Organization.

Government sources said today they expected Datuk Hussein Oni to name his cabinet later this month, but ruled out any dramatic changes. Only one minister, a deputy minister and a parliamentary secretary lost their seats.

But the immediate worry for the Government is the racial polarization that emerged from the poll. The opposition Democratic Action Party, which bases much of its support among the urban, largely Chinese community, took 16 seats, while the Front's main Chinese party, the Malaysian Chinese Association, won only 17 of the 28 seats it contested.

Vietnam agrees to talks on Chinese refugee exodus

Hongkong, July 23—Vietnam has agreed to open talks with China on the mass exodus of Chinese refugees across the border between the two countries, Hanoi Radio, monitored here, reported today.

The Vietnamese Government suggested that negotiations could start if the Chinese thought it convenient, in Hanoi on August 8.

This positive response came four days after China proposed talks at deputy-foreign minister level next month.

China has accused the Hanoi Government of persecuting and expelling nearly 160,000 ethnic Chinese, and has given warning that the situation was becoming increasingly grave.

The dispute soured relations between the communist neighbours to the point that Peking stopped aid to Hanoi and closed Vietnamese consulates in several Chinese cities.

Hanoi Radio said the Chinese proposal for talks was accepted in a note, handed over by the Foreign Ministry to the Chinese chargé d'affaires in Hanoi. It said the Vietnamese Government had always stood for a negotiated solution to disputes between the two countries, and added that Vietnam "will do all it can to help bring about fine results".

In recent weeks Hanoi has alleged that China was refusing entry to ethnic Chinese wanting to leave Vietnam.

Three days ago, Hanoi said 700 people of Chinese origin were stranded on a bridge at the frontier because Chinese border guards would not allow them across. Some 2,000 more were milling around another border checkpoint.

Last month China sent two ships to Vietnam to pick up Chinese refugees, but the evacuation has been held up by a wrangle over procedures.

Our Bangkok Correspondent writes: The Australian Immigration Minister, Mr. Michael MacKellar, at the end of an official visit to Thailand rejected a suggestion by the Prime Minister that Thailand should control the selection of Indo-Chinese refugees for resettlement in Australia and other countries.

We must and will retain the right to decide who does and does not enter Australia", Mr. MacKellar said.

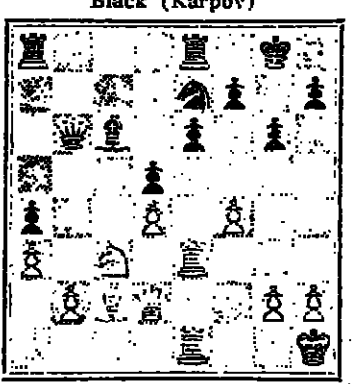
Time trouble costs Korchnoi a win

From Harry Golombek Chess Correspondent Baguio, Philippines, July 23
Viktor Korchnoi was expected to put a special effort into the third game of the world championship yesterday. He had the advantage of the white pieces and he also had to support previous remarks about his opponent, Anatoly Karpov, being overrated.

Korchnoi started with his usual 1.P-Q4 move, but soon transposed into a Nimzo-Indian Defence. For some time there was nothing unusual about the opening since the Rubinstein line (4.P-K3) which he adopted is the most popular method seen nowadays.

An early advance of the Queen's bishop's pawn showed Korchnoi's aggressive intentions, but it was Karpov who first varied from known paths by advancing his Queen's rook's pawn to as far as R5 in a successful attempt to prevent white from exploiting his pawn majority on the queenside.

Meanwhile, Korchnoi, playing with admirable force and energy, was pursuing an attack both in the centre and on the king's wing. Karpov defended as well as possible, but his position was highly suspect out



Black (Karpov) White (Korchnoi)

Where Korchnoi missed his chance. Position after 20 moves.

of the opening and became even more dangerous as the middle game proceeded.

We all thought that this was going to develop into a masterpiece of the Korchnoi style of attack, but suddenly by the twenty-sixth move it became clear that his attack was spent and that there was no more than a draw in the position for either side.

With Korchnoi coming into time trouble—he had 10

minutes left for 12 moves—he wisely chose a line that forced the draw, this being agreed on the thirtieth move by proposal of Korchnoi.

Subsequent analysis shows that the challenger did indeed miss a win on his twenty-first move when he should have played P-B5. True, he did play this one move later, but by then black had been able to bring his queen to bear on the vital point.

The first three games have all been drawn. The fourth will be played on Tuesday.

Game 3. White Korchnoi, black Karpov, Nimzo-Indian defence.

1. P-Q4 K-K3
2. B-N3 B-N3
3. P-K3 P-K3
4. P-K3 P-K3
5. P-B3 P-B3
6. P-B3 P-B3
7. P-B3 P-B3
8. P-B3 P-B3
9. P-B3 P-B3
10. P-B3 P-B3
11. P-B3 P-B3
12. P-B3 P-B3
13. P-B3 P-B3
14. P-B3 P-B3
15. P-B3 P-B3
16. P-B3 P-B3
17. P-B3 P-B3
18. P-B3 P-B3
19. P-B3 P-B3
20. P-B3 P-B3

1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined by the method of Arar and Collins (1971) using a Shimadzu 1010 spectrophotometer. The concentration of chlorophylls was expressed in $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ of the sample.

SPORT

Horse show

Saywell and Chain Bridge hold all comers at bay in final event

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris
The last big jumping classic of the Royal International Horse Show at Wembley on Saturday night, the 15,000 Daily Mail Cup, went to Michael Saywell on Trevor, a grey Irish horse, Chain Bridge, by Bahrain. He went clear over two demanding courses to win this championship for the 24 highest-classified horses, including the four who had won it in previous years. The winner, who has added to his victory in the King George V Gold Cup two years ago.

In setting the standard of 346cm, he was able to hold all comers at bay. Rowland Farnborough was runner-up on Automatic in 37.5sec and Fred Welch took Rossmore into third place in 44.2sec.

The defending champion, Ferd Tyeck, of Belgium, on the Wexford-bred Ransome, was among several fancied horses who were in trouble at the first round when they were in trouble at the second. David Broome and Sportsman retired in the first round, but Broome had already won the saddle of honour for points gained on one horse throughout the show (Queensway) and the other (Acres) as well as the St George's Trophy for points won on two horses.

Mrs David Mould won the Laurence Silver stirrup for the leading woman rider of the show, achieved again on points, despite a fall on a pommel horse, which was won by Caroline Bradley, who had won the Queen Elizabeth Cup as well as, on Saturday, the Radio Rentals

champion horseman competition, in which the four contenders, mounted from a pool of four horses, change mounts four times. Heavy Smith was runner-up, Derek Ricketts third and Jan-Olaf Wamund fourth.

Jennie Loriston-Clarke won the Sherry Shippers' special award for the person who has made the greatest contribution during the week. Her twice daily display of dressage with David Hunt earned her this honour in part, but even more so did the Lloyds Bank musical ride, a new feature, in association with the National Pony Society, comprising 16 ponies who put on an enthralling display with their young riders, one of whom, it was later discovered, despite all efforts to keep her anonymity, was the new star of the show, Eddie Smith, who won his eighth John Player Trophy for the British Show prior to Friday night from Broome, defeated Broome again in the Matthew Norman Clockmakers top scores, earning 1,000 points as compared to 930 achieved by Broome on Philico, Eddie Macken, junior's second place in London had a lean week, but the familiar green coat finally won through in the Calor Gas two-horse stakes, which he won on his partner, Boomerang (who was given to him at the end of the 1976 season by the German owner for whom he

used to ride, Dr Schnapka), and the German-bred Boy, Fernyough was runner-up, one second slower, with Autocrat and Mrs Craig's Bouncer.

Sheer showmanship won for Robert Oliver on the cob, Kemply, the Winston Churchill Cup for the champion light horse of the show, judged on the applause of the crowd by the holders of the Queen Elizabeth and George V Cups. His whip-cracking display stole the thunder from David Barker on Lady Zimna Pollock's champion hunter, Swanbourne, Barker having also planned a hunting display.

Red Edge, his only supporter, was the week to judge the coaters class with Dorian Williams, but was so quiet and subdued that the judges were left with a choice of a grey stick, carrying a walking stick, and with his left leg in plaster from thigh to ankle after he had been kicked by the horse. "I've had it wired up," he said, looking for him—him and wan. "It's painful, but there are many worse off than me—I'm just longing to be back."

DAILY MAIL CUP: 1st, Saywell on Trevor; 2nd, Farnborough on Automatic; 3rd, Welch on Rossmore; 4th, Tyeck on Ransome; 5th, Mould on Laurence; 6th, Mould on Acres; 7th, Mould on Queensway; 8th, Mould on St George's; 9th, Mould on Philico; 10th, Mould on Eddie Macken; 11th, Mould on Boomerang; 12th, Mould on Boy; 13th, Mould on Autocrat; 14th, Mould on Mrs Craig's Bouncer; 15th, Mould on Kemply; 16th, Mould on Winston Churchill.

Athletics

Man Scots left behind stays in front all the way

By a Special Correspondent
The highlight of the British AAA under-20 championship came at Cumbrian was 18-year-old Graham Williamson's crushing of the field in the 1500 metres final, when he took the lead immediately to keep a solo front run and a new British junior record of 3min 39.7sec. Neil Black (Morpeeth), the runner-up, was almost 40 seconds behind in 3min 44.6sec.

The Scottish party had already landed in Canada as Williamson was sending them the message that he could not have been left behind. After the race Williamson said that he had given up hope of a call to Canada, and his coach, Eddie Sinclair, said he was now "much more interested in the European Championships."

It would be strange if Williamson did not get enough for Scotland, should be chosen by Great Britain. Immediately after Williamson's win, David Shaw, the British Amateur Athletics Board secretary, was seen to be in earnest conversation with the young Scot. Congratulations, commiseration, or both?

Michael Morton (Blackburn), the world junior cross country champion, won his expected victory in the junior men's 5,000 metres in 14min 12.8sec. Only Steve Anders (Stretford) was

brave enough to attempt to stay with him. Colin Reiz (Essex Beagles) was another anticipated victor and obliged with a time of 3min 35.5sec in the 2,000 metres steeplechase. He won by about 12 seconds, just a second outside his new record time.

David Lewis (Rossendale) retained his youth title in the steeplechase with a win in 4min 15.05sec. Julian Spooner (Blackheath) beat Robbie Harrison (Liverpool) by just one second in the second in the closest race of the championships, the junior men's 800 metres after looking beaten. Harrison probably lost the race by dipping too soon for the tape.

Timothy Anstiff (Feltham), the British schools champion, won the junior men's 1,500 metres Saturday with 4.40 metres, a new personal best, and came back yesterday to win the youths 15-17 metres in 4min 12.8sec, a new record in dreadful conditions with 4.21 metres—a championship best performance.

DUBLIN: Republic of Ireland championships. Men: 400m: 1st, Kenny (1st), 1.00.00; 2nd, 1.01.00; 3rd, 1.02.00; 4th, 1.03.00; 5th, 1.04.00; 6th, 1.05.00; 7th, 1.06.00; 8th, 1.07.00; 9th, 1.08.00; 10th, 1.09.00; 11th, 1.10.00; 12th, 1.11.00; 13th, 1.12.00; 14th, 1.13.00; 15th, 1.14.00; 16th, 1.15.00; 17th, 1.16.00; 18th, 1.17.00; 19th, 1.18.00; 20th, 1.19.00; 21st, 1.20.00; 22nd, 1.21.00; 23rd, 1.22.00; 24th, 1.23.00; 25th, 1.24.00; 26th, 1.25.00; 27th, 1.26.00; 28th, 1.27.00; 29th, 1.28.00; 30th, 1.29.00; 31st, 1.30.00; 32nd, 1.31.00; 33rd, 1.32.00; 34th, 1.33.00; 35th, 1.34.00; 36th, 1.35.00; 37th, 1.36.00; 38th, 1.37.00; 39th, 1.38.00; 40th, 1.39.00; 41st, 1.40.00; 42nd, 1.41.00; 43rd, 1.42.00; 44th, 1.43.00; 45th, 1.44.00; 46th, 1.45.00; 47th, 1.46.00; 48th, 1.47.00; 49th, 1.48.00; 50th, 1.49.00; 51st, 1.50.00; 52nd, 1.51.00; 53rd, 1.52.00; 54th, 1.53.00; 55th, 1.54.00; 56th, 1.55.00; 57th, 1.56.00; 58th, 1.57.00; 59th, 1.58.00; 60th, 1.59.00; 61st, 2.00.00; 62nd, 2.01.00; 63rd, 2.02.00; 64th, 2.03.00; 65th, 2.04.00; 66th, 2.05.00; 67th, 2.06.00; 68th, 2.07.00; 69th, 2.08.00; 70th, 2.09.00; 71st, 2.10.00; 72nd, 2.11.00; 73rd, 2.12.00; 74th, 2.13.00; 75th, 2.14.00; 76th, 2.15.00; 77th, 2.16.00; 78th, 2.17.00; 79th, 2.18.00; 80th, 2.19.00; 81st, 2.20.00; 82nd, 2.21.00; 83rd, 2.22.00; 84th, 2.23.00; 85th, 2.24.00; 86th, 2.25.00; 87th, 2.26.00; 88th, 2.27.00; 89th, 2.28.00; 90th, 2.29.00; 91st, 2.30.00; 92nd, 2.31.00; 93rd, 2.32.00; 94th, 2.33.00; 95th, 2.34.00; 96th, 2.35.00; 97th, 2.36.00; 98th, 2.37.00; 99th, 2.38.00; 100th, 2.39.00; 101st, 2.40.00; 102nd, 2.41.00; 103rd, 2.42.00; 104th, 2.43.00; 105th, 2.44.00; 106th, 2.45.00; 107th, 2.46.00; 108th, 2.47.00; 109th, 2.48.00; 110th, 2.49.00; 111th, 2.50.00; 112th, 2.51.00; 113th, 2.52.00; 114th, 2.53.00; 115th, 2.54.00; 116th, 2.55.00; 117th, 2.56.00; 118th, 2.57.00; 119th, 2.58.00; 120th, 2.59.00; 121st, 3.00.00; 122nd, 3.01.00; 123rd, 3.02.00; 124th, 3.03.00; 125th, 3.04.00; 126th, 3.05.00; 127th, 3.06.00; 128th, 3.07.00; 129th, 3.08.00; 130th, 3.09.00; 131st, 3.10.00; 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Edward Mortimer on some Government 'inconsistencies'

Treading an uneasy line over human rights

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, has strongly identified himself since he took office with President Carter's campaign to ensure greater respect for human rights throughout the world. Early in his term he referred to concern for human rights as "not a diversionary tactic but an integral part of foreign policy in the western democracies."

He warned, however, that the price to pay for this attitude would be "a little inconsistency from time to time", and by April of this year he had ruefully revised that prediction to read "a very great deal of inconsistency".

The following are some of the inconsistencies that have recently come to light.

The list of countries to which Britain supplies CS gas (used in riot control) is currently being reviewed on Dr Owen's instructions. But the Government has just approved a contract worth £100,000 for the supply of CS gas, cartridges and guns for firing them in Iran—a country with a notoriously bad human rights record where many demonstrators have been violently broken up by police during this year. (Iran, of course, buys other weapons from Britain which are suitable for external

defence. But CS gas can be used only for the maintenance of internal order.)

One regime about whose violations of human rights Dr Owen has been specifically outspoken is that of Ethiopia. In spite of this, the Government provides scholarships through the British Council for students nominated by the ruling Dergue to study in this country, but is apparently about to refuse an application from a non-governmental organization for funds to give similar scholarships to Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees. (The scheme is said to be favoured by the Ministry of Overseas Development, but is opposed by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on political grounds.)

Better known is the projected sale of Hawk aircraft to Indonesia, another country with a very bad human rights record which in addition has used military force to annex the former Portuguese colony of East Timor, in flagrant disregard of the wishes of the inhabitants.

But perhaps even more surprising is the Government's plan to sell seven frigates to the Argentine navy. This is far from being a non-political matter, since the navy in Argentina is well known to have played an active part in the kidnapping and torturing

of the government's political opponents—and of course, there is always the possibility that British-made ships would be used, either by the present Argentine government or a future one, to seize control of the Falkland Islands, a British dependency to which Argentina repeatedly lays claim, again ignoring the wishes of the inhabitants.

The contract is said to be worth about £50m, but no doubt more persuasive is its value in terms of jobs on Clydeside. Can British ministers be blamed for hearing more clearly the cries of the unemployed in Scotland than those of the tortured in Argentina or of the threatened Falkland Islanders, so many thousands of miles away?

And then of course there is the matter, recently raised by Mr. Thatcher, of the extensive trade credits accorded to the Soviet Union and other East European countries. To what extent should these be seen as a subsidy to the oppressive regimes in power there? The question is not an easy one to answer.

But, as Dr Owen says, the fact that one cannot always live up to one's principles is not a reason for ceasing to infect this particular issue into public life at all. And it is pleasant to be able to record one case where

the Government did live up to its principles and where its attitude, admittedly coinciding with that of the United States, did apparently have a positive effect. This was last year's cancellation of a £19m grant to Bolivia for renovation of the copper mines there, because the Bolivian government would not meet conditions set by the British Government concerning the release and readmission to the mines of imprisoned and exiled trade union leaders and the authorization of free trade union activity there. (These conditions were imposed at the instigation of the National Union of Mineworkers, acting on behalf of its then-outlawed Bolivian counterpart.)

All the conditions have now been met, even though they were refused at the time, since the Bolivian government declared a general amnesty in January; and though this was essentially the achievement of an internal agitation for human rights (including a massive hunger strike), the internal activists themselves attribute a significant role to the British action, both in raising their own morale and in triggering further pressure from President Carter which obliged the regime of General Banzer to announce elections.

The miners' leaders themselves are not reportedly happy that the British loan will be refused, but are holding back from formally requesting that until the political situation is clarified. (The election results were invalidated after a team of international observers headed by Lord Avebury reported massive electoral fraud in favour of the government candidates.)

All these vicissitudes have led people inside and outside the Foreign Office to question the value of a negative or "punitive" approach to human rights issues and to stress the value of "positive" action in favour of groups or governments which are working to extend human rights and meet the "basic needs" of oppressed and poverty-stricken people, especially in the Third World.

These ideas were discussed at a seminar in the Foreign Office last month, chaired by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Mr. Bryan Lunn, at which many non-governmental organizations involved in the issue were represented. But the Ethiopian example shows how even "positive" and non-official schemes may come to grief, when officials are trying to keep the lines open to a "negatively" disposed foreign government.

John P Mackintosh

What chance of the real issues coming out in an election?

Is it possible to say what general elections should be about? To the professionals, they are about getting votes and winning power. But an election should be, and sometimes is, a great educational experience in that the public hear the politicians, explaining what they—the leaders of the country—consider to be the issues that matter most.

Simultaneously, the politicians get told in a direct manner, which seldom occurs between elections, exactly what is disturbing the public.

The debate of key issues can be muffled because all the parties are in "broad agreement"; sometimes it is muffled because one party finds an issue too embarrassing to dwell on. But one does expect that major decisions such as to abandon free trade, to set up a welfare state or to enter the European Community, should be thoroughly discussed at elections so that the public know that by voting for party A rather than party B they would be more likely to get one of these policies carried out.

Frequently this is possible but an interesting and quite uncharacteristic feature of politics is that when the national mood swings in a given direction all the parties move in that direction also, though one party may find that particular drift a little easier and more congenial than another.

Some may recall the general mood in favour of regional planning in the early 1960s; after revelations that there were "two Brixtons", one to the north and west of a line from Severn to the Test and another, in every way better off, to the south and east.

The Conservatives responded with a plan for Scotland and Lord Hailsham bought a cloth cap and went to visit Newcastle. Labour just won the 1964 election for many reasons, but in part because its basic outlook meant it could talk about planning and redistribution of resources within the United Kingdom with more enthusiasm and conviction than the Conservatives.

What then are the present moods of the public, what decisions need to be taken and which party is best placed to benefit from the current atmosphere? It is often said that there is a drift to the right all over the Western world and people point to the anti-tax victory in California, the right wing drift of many students and the defeats suffered by Euro-communism.

But in Britain, though these feelings exist, they seem to attach, not to the social objectives of recent years, but to the kind of remedies that have been applied since the 1930s. For instance, the idea that a working man and his family should have a reasonable house they can call "home" is as deeply held as ever. But when the position is reached—as is the case in some parts of the country—that there are more houses than households, the simple drive to build more council houses for rent may not be appropriate.

Similarly, real poverty is as unacceptable or more unacceptable today than ever before, but the public are restive over the bureaucratic costs of a system which means that the Department of Health and Social Security make 21 million payments each week to 134 million people.

The tax raising side is equally cumbersome. The last figures show that the average income tax payer pays £2,700 which falls to £2,400 after a mass of additional allowances and the subtraction of a series of taxes and changes.

Politicians are uneasy about this anti-government, anti-bureaucracy feeling because they have no ready answer that fits in with their political position.

Conservatives find it easier to attack a government but they know that cuts are all the officials do and these receiving in more like being lab scoundrels.

Labour spokesmen of venturing on to the

What are the present moods of the public, what decisions need to be taken and which party is best placed to benefit from the current atmosphere?

in any way as it may be at a time when welfare state was a

As a result, this issue of whether it is possible to achieve a fair wage may well be obscured.

A second key problem is the issue of why, on identical lines, do we produce man-hour than our

What is the need for small business? Labour will return to do both as a Labour government on which the union the reverse problem set on too well.

unions may allow us to persist. Just a group is clearly to low productivity and no easy solutions, may also be lost sight.

Other important devolution—particularly the English, who on the degree of regional development in regions. Then there do we want to be reacting in defence citizens in situation kind that arose at

the chief fore issue is whether a plan a full part or to draw our feet matters as economic monetary union.

But while these some of the key appears unlikely that the canvassed at the

of a capacity to the unions on the side, with much the danger of soc the far left, over and over-governance part of the Opera, it would be encl the public, by their of what moved them to shift the debate, real issues facing

The author is Labor, Berrick and East Loth

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The language that divides a nation

A bizarre verbal confrontation enacted outside the Crown Court at Carmarthen last week served to demonstrate vividly the cultural and linguistic gulf which is dividing the people of Wales.

While some 200 supporters of the Welsh Language Society gathered outside the court to hear their leaders, a group of older men emerged from the Royal Air Force Association Club to hurl abuse at them, and to sing "God Save The Queen".

Nothing could have better demonstrated the clash between these Welshmen for whom the language is an embarrassing irritation and a minority of their countrymen, mainly young, who are prepared to break the law in order to save the old tongue.

The brutal truth is that the Welsh language is fast approaching the point of no return. Fewer than a fifth of the people of the principality now speak Welsh and it is estimated that 200 speakers are lost every week.

Welsh linguists believe that unless the trend is halted, they will be driven like Red Indians to a kind of cultural reservation in the far West, where visitors will come and gawk at them. Television is cited by society members as the main cause of the language. According to them Starks and Hunch and the other instant cultural delights beamed into the home, have done more than any other single thing to decimate the language.

This is why the society has been waging with varying degrees of lawlessness a campaign to secure the establishment in Wales of a fourth television channel controlled by a Welsh broadcasting authority.

For eight years now the campaign, largely ignored by the media, has led to hundreds of people being fined or imprisoned for refusing to pay television licences or for damaging transmitting installations. Their ranks include doctors, councillors, preachers, authors and most of all, students.

Most members of the society are young men and women under the age of 30, who tend to come from strict non-conformist homes where a respect for the law is instilled into them.

It is therefore surprising that increasingly society members have been prepared to engage in acts of civil disobedience and in some cases to cause damage to property. A clear exposition of the philosophy of the society was given by the former chairman Piffr Francis when he appeared in court in Mold. "In Wales broadcasting equipment is being used as a means of oppression against the language and the personality of the Welsh people. It would be quite wrong to use personal violence against broadcasters or controllers in order to stop this oppression.

but it is the right and, indeed, it is the responsibility of every conscientious Welshman to destroy property which is being used to oppress the people."

This view was undoubtedly rejected by the majority in Wales. Some because they consider that protests should only take place within the law; others, like the former Servicemen in Carmarthen, because they believe Wales should be totally integrated into England.

Nevertheless, the society argues with some justification that its direct action methods and passive resistance have been responsible for a number of reforms which have enhanced the status of the language.

Since the society was formed in 1962, a whole range of bilingual official forms are now available to people in Wales. A major breakthrough was achieved in 1967, when the Welsh Language Act was passed, which granted equal validity to Welsh on any document or declaration made in a court.

Many respected members of the establishment in Wales, who are in no way connected with the society, agree that a Welsh television channel must be established if the language has any hope at all of surviving as a living medium.

Three government-appointed committees have recommended the establishment of a Welsh language channel while the Council for the Welsh Language in their recent report, said the predicament of the language was so dire that "the fourth channel should be made available in Wales in advance of the rest of the UK."

Spurred on by these official announcements, which in no way advocate lawlessness, society members have conducted a series of raids on television transmitting installations in England and Wales. And they have demonstrated that they have the capacity and determination to stop any campaign unless the Government sets a firm date for the establishment of a channel. It is no secret that society members have in their possession keys to the technical manuals which would enable them to gain entry to transmitting stations in Britain.

The Home Office regard these clandestine raids on stations as unbecomingly provocative exercises for they point out that Mr. Rees, the Home Secretary, has said that plans for the channel are well advanced "subject to the money being available".

To impress the society, says its campaign will continue until its demands are met. When the channel is established, the fate of the language will be decided by the people of Wales. Unless the will exists, no amount of protest can save the language of heaven.

Tim Jones

Cambridge without a Butler: like a master without a servant



Lord Butler: last in a long continuous line of fellows at Cambridge.

The departure of Lord Butler from the Master's Lodge of Trinity College, Cambridge, this month closes a chapter in a remarkable family history.

The Butlers have maintained a consecutive tradition at Cambridge as dons since 1794. The last three generations of the family have produced at least 12 fellows of Oxfbridge colleges, among them three professors.

Lord Butler's father and great uncle were, like him, heads of Cambridge colleges. No other family can claim such a galaxy of academic stars. As Lord Butler puts it, "The Keynes and the Darwins may have the edge on us in intellectual brilliance, but in terms of the number of fellowships, there is no doubt that we win."

The Butlers must be counted among the leading members of that peculiarly British fraternity which Lord Annon once described as "the intellectual aristocracy".

The founder of this great academic dynasty was George Butler, the son of a Worcester-shire clergyman and grandson of the town crier of Rye. In 1794 he was Senior Wrangler at Cambridge and became a fellow of Sidney Sussex College. He was subsequently headmaster of Harrow for 24 years and ended his days as Dean of Peterborough.

George Butler's four sons shared their father's high intellect and academic inclinations. The oldest, George, was a fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, and then Principal of Liverpool College. The second, John, was a fellow of Liverpool University. His wife was Josephine Butler, the feminist and philanthropist. Their offspring included the Professor of Natural Philosophy at St. Andrews and the famous Examiner to the Civil Service.

George's third son, Arthur, was a fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, for 40 years and became the first headmaster of Harebury in 1862. His grandson, Harold Edgeworth Butler, was Professor of Latin at London University and was the father of Dr David Butler, the leading contemporary psephologist and fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

The youngest son, Montagu, was the most formidable of all the Butlers. The *Times* obituary described him as "the most patriarchal figure in English academic life". In 1859 at the age of 26 he became headmaster of Harrow like his father before him. He remained at the school for 26 years until he was appointed Dean of Gloucester and spent the last 32 years of his life as Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.

When he came to Trinity, he was reminded by a friend that he was no longer an autocrat as he had been at Harrow but a constitutional monarch. He did not allow the changed circumstances to cramp his style, however. In his first year as Master, aged 53, he caused a sensation among the fellows by marrying a young girl who had just come top of the Classical Tripos. He wrote to a colleague, "It is her goodness, not her Greek and Latin, which have stolen my heart."

Montagu became a legendary figure at Cambridge. His devotion to his college knew no bounds. He is said to have commented at the end of a sermon on the Day of Judgment, after praising Christ's action in separating the sheep and the goats, "We would expect no less of him, since he said after all, in some sense a Trinity man himself."

As well as being a distinguished classical scholar and theologian, Montagu was the first of the Butlers to show a serious interest in politics. Early in his life he had toyed with the idea of entering Parliament. By inclination he was a Peelite and a Gladstonian but he broke with the Liberals in the 1890s when Gladstone espoused Irish Home Rule and failed to save the life of General Gordon at Khartoum.

Montagu's three sons went on to become a master at Harrow, the librarian to the House of Lords and Registrar of the House of Commons, although he was the first to forsake the academic life wholly for politics. James Butler had been elected MP for Cambridge University in 1922, only to be displaced by his cousin Geoffrey in the general election the following year. Sir Geoffrey Butler, who was author of a book on the Tory Tradition from Bolingbroke to Salisbury and architect of the Cambridge University Conservative Association, was described by *The Times* as "a Conservative of the new school" because of his keen interest in the new subject of aviation.

Sadly, it now seems that the long line of Butler fellows at Cambridge has come to an end. Lord Butler's sons are, respectively, the Deputy President of the National Farmers Union, the Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mrs Thatcher, and a producer with Thames Television.

Hope of continuing the remarkable intellectual dynasty must rest at the other place with David Butler. He has already done his best by marrying another Oxford don and producing three sons. It remains to be seen whether they will make sure that the name of Butler is as well known in academic circles in future generations as it has been in the past.

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OLDIERS MAKE WAY FOR VOTERS

of last week's coup in the political map of America, so long dominated by a repressive military rule, as well as a sign that civilians are allowed a chance to elect themselves. In Brazil, the most important countries of the region, something of a separate deal of activity surrounding the political and congressional scene this autumn; and the government is under challenge than it has since the armed forces took power in 1964. Even in the diehards of Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, the soldiers feel the need to talk about returning to civilians, though not in immediate future.

In the coup in Bolivia, it was that though the forces are in many cases to withdraw, they are on doing so on their own terms. They are particularly keen to keep out anyone they regard as being too First, the Bolivian tried to rig the elections of their own president, General Juan Perón. Then, when this was exposed, they had to annul the elections, and, in a move of self-defence, the military took over the country, and the installation of General Perón by force of arms is bound to lead to

trouble with opposition groups, and with Washington—unless General Perón sticks to the plan to hold new, clean elections within six months.

One of the reasons why the armed forces are prepared to envisage this partial withdrawal is that the threat from "subversion" in its various forms is no longer felt to be so acute. The guerrilla groups which sprang up in the 1960s have largely been eliminated as a result of the ruthless methods used in recent years; and ten years after the death of Che Guevara in Bolivia, the Cubans are not felt to be such a threat. The Argentine regime in Chile, another disruptive element in the military view, has been disposed of.

Another element in the decision, of course, is the pressure from the Carter Administration in Washington. In the past, the United States has often imposed military governments in Latin America, or at least helped from the sidelines; it bears part of the responsibility for the failure to introduce social reforms. But its emphasis now is on respect for human rights, a return to democracy, and reform; and in spite of the angry reaction from some of the military governments it is having some effect.

All the same, the effects of the trend should not be exaggerated. The events in Bolivia are proof enough of that. Besides, though there has been greater acknowledgment of human rights in some countries, such as Brazil and Chile, serious abuses remain, and Latin America as a whole remains one of the world's black spots, with torture continuing to be widespread. Even in Mexico, a country which has had a civilian government for many years, there are frequent cases in which opponents of the governing party simply disappear. It also has to be shown that civilian governments will be more prepared than military ones to tackle the enormous gap between rich and poor in Latin America, a factor that has remained constant throughout all the upheavals in the area. Latin America is an area of great economic potential, as Brazil has shown in recent years, and as Argentina might have shown if its affairs had not been so mismanaged.

Still, there is no question that the situation has changed since the heyday of the military regimes when countries like Venezuela, Colombia and Costa Rica, with their democratic systems, appeared to be isolated. Paraguay remains a repressive backward state dominated by General Alfredo Stroessner, and General Anastasio Somoza is still in power in Nicaragua, though weakened. But Brazil is in political ferment, and even in Chile the opposition parties have begun to stir since the referendum in January, now that protest is possible again. In Argentina, it is significant that Admiral Massera, the naval member of the ruling junta, is known to be interested in heading a political movement after his retirement this autumn. The movement away from military rule may well not be a rapid one, but it is under way. It remains to be seen whether new, more democratic governments will be able to resolve Latin America's difficulties and realize its potential.

THE BUSINESS BACKGROUND IN PARLIAMENT

are relatively few members of Parliament these days with practical experience, commerce, industry or finance. It is bad for the House of Commons and must be damaging the long-term interests of the country. On the other hand, it is the principal loser of the Commons lacks expertise to exercise its knowledgeably in the most critical areas of the country's activities, which means the trend towards corporate state. The business community, however, has not been of much use to the government in the past, and it is not clear that it will be of much use in the future. The business community, however, has not been of much use to the government in the past, and it is not clear that it will be of much use in the future.

to be elected to Parliament and a CBI working party under Lord Carr has been considering what industry can do to bring this about. Its report wisely rules out the direct sponsorship of candidates, which would be unlikely to help such candidates to be elected and would not be a healthy political development if they were. Instead, the working party concentrates on minimizing three different categories of problem: the difficulties of the aspiring candidate, of the sitting member, and of the MP who loses his seat.

The main needs of the aspiring candidate are encouragement and time. He wants to know that his job and promotion prospects will not be put in jeopardy if he has a go; and if he is to be successful he will have to devote a fair amount of time to nursing a constituency that may be quite a distance away. On both these points the report lays down sensible guidelines for an employer to follow. But it also raises a critical question: should the path be made smooth for candidates of all parties? Obviously it should for those of all the main parties. But what about the extremes of left and right? Where the law is concerned there must be even-handed treatment for all according to objective criteria. But where employers are offering concessions at their own discretion they are hedged about by law as described above, and although the Basic Law states that employers and workers have the right to form or join organizations to look after their interests, "the union shop or closed shop is not permitted." Compared with Britain the trade unions are numerically weak—only about a third of the total workforce is unionized. Nine out of 10 union members are part of the German Federation of Trade Unions, which consists of 16 unions representing workers in the metal, construction, mining and chemical industries.

Against that, the West German trade unions are built into the management system, even into the capitalist system as they are not in Britain. To finance themselves, the trade unions receive about 1 per cent of pre-tax wages as a membership subscription, and much of their income is invested in the private sector economy. Beyond that (and here is the industrial democracy or participation element) all workers, not simply organized workers, have a say in the Betriebsrat (workers' council) in each plant or business. While trade unions bargain nationally for basic wages and fringe benefits in large industries, the Betriebsrat does what union stewards do in Britain. The consequence is that trade union power is national; workers' council power is local to the firm or business. It is claimed that the two levels do not compete, but co-exist.

The Federal Republic's system of industrial relations has helped West Germany to achieve its postwar miracle: a strong currency, high wages, a "social wage" that compares decently with Britain's, rising exports, relatively low unemployment, a low rate of inflation, rising productivity, and a general standard of living second only to the United States. Moreover, a broken and defeated people now exude a sense of confidence and success, and show it politically whenever Western statesmen meet.

A model regime for the United Kingdom, as the Chancellor suggests? In the fourth year of the sixth enforced pay freeze since Sir Stafford Cripps introduced his zero pay norm in February, 1948, we are entitled to have our doubts.

creation it will be neither surprising nor unreasonable if they regard the National Front or some of the way out parties on the left as being in a different category.

For the rising young businessman, however, the worst problems are likely to come once he is elected, simply because MPs are paid so badly. That is not the fault of employers and it is not up to them to make up for it. The report draws a sensible distinction between payment for genuine work done for a company and just topping up an inadequate parliamentary salary. Those members with a business background should be encouraged to maintain their links in practical terms so far as they can, but it is up to Parliament to pay its members properly.

Where employers can reasonably be asked for help is over pension rights and the reemployment of those MPs who lose their seats. There must obviously be a considerable difference here in what can be expected of the large and the small employer—a point that is reinforced by the survey of employers' attitudes conducted for the working party—and it would be fruitless to set down rigid requirements. But this report will serve its purpose if it can bring about a more sympathetic awareness of what the good employer can and ought to do.

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A model regime for the United Kingdom, as the Chancellor suggests? In the fourth year of the sixth enforced pay freeze since Sir Stafford Cripps introduced his zero pay norm in February, 1948, we are entitled to have our doubts.

Seeking a settlement in Rhodesia

From Mr Brian Crozier
Sir, It is disingenuous to find Dr Owen and Mr Vance, on the one hand, and Mr Davies and Mr Maudling, on the other, urging the retention of sanctions against Rhodesia. Those in power persist with their scheme for South Africa talks between the Patriotic Front and the Rhodesian Front, one of those of power has come up with a plan to make Rhodesia temporarily a self-governing colony while elections are prepared.

The two plans compete in unreality, but the Owen-Vance plan is by far the more dangerous if only because both men are in office. It is devoutly to be hoped that it fails, for if sanctions forced Mr Smith and his black colleagues to the conference table with the kind of concessions that would tempt Nkomo and Mugabe to return to Salisbury, the likely outcome would be a mass exodus of whites and perhaps the bloodiest civil war Africa has yet seen.

Let us attempt an Irish analogy. Supporting the two camps of the Northern Ireland has reached, unaided, a mutually acceptable plan for power-sharing, in which former leaders of the IRA had a place; and suppose that the Government at Westminster decided upon a new economic blockade of the province until such time as the Royal Ulster Constabulary should be handed over to the section of the IRA still engaged in terrorism. Would there not be much political indignation at such an outrage? And yet, mad as it is, this is what the Owen-Vance plan amounts to.

The internal settlement may fall short of perfection, but it represents a major advance and the best hope for Rhodesia. Bishop Muzorewa has appealed for the end of sanctions. Mr Smith has declared his "mutatis" that is what the Owen-Vance plan amounts to.

Economics of divorce

From Mr Trevor Berry
Sir, Perhaps one of the major hurdles in persuading divorced men to meet their legal financial obligations of which Geraldine Evans (July 3) complains is the area of English family law relating to alimony.

In spite of the provisions of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 many people would argue (including, I suspect, Ruth Deech, your correspondent of July 6 on attitudes to women, who is a one-time member of the Law Commission) that this has not been fundamentally reviewed since 1857, so that the concept of female dependency remains a tenet of current practice. It means, for example, that unless a formerly married woman legally remarries she is encouraged to remain her rights in law to maintain a claim for periodical payments any time during the life of her former husband, irrespective of whether since her divorce she has lived in a stable relationship with another person or persons. In considering any such claim the court is required to have regard to the financial circumstances of the former spouse including any career advancements he may have achieved in the meantime.

Should doctors strike?

From Mr John Potter
Sir, Neither Sir Denis Hill (July 10) nor his vigorous opponent, Dr R. E. Eban (July 17), touches upon a new, but important aspect of this question. Parliament delegates to the General Medical Council the duty to control the medical profession so that the public interest is protected. Under the new Medical Act, a majority of the GMC must in future be elected by the profession, and it will then be possible for candidates, sponsored by the British Medical Association to gain control of the Council.

The BMA is the medical trade union recognized by the Government. In this role it has a primary duty to look after the interests of the doctors, and it has now resolved to appoint shop stewards or "place of work accredited representatives." It may not be in fact gain control of the GMC (BMA-sponsored candidates did not do very well at the last election). If it does, will the GMC then be able to satisfy Parliament that it will always put the interests of the public before those of the doctors? Yours faithfully, JOHN POTTER, Director of Postgraduate Medical Education and Training, The Medical School, University of Oxford.

Area of real life

From Mr Peter Moores
Sir, Paul Over reports on July 4 from the Venice Biennale about Mark Boyle's "two square yards" of reproductions of Real Life. As one of the exhibits is taken from a series that I commissioned, I know the artist's mainly work in squares 6ft x 6ft—which just goes to show that these artistic fellows cannot be trusted to put two and two together and get the right answer. Yours faithfully, PETER MOORES, Parbold Hall, Parbold, Near Wigan.

Crime in Scotland

From Dr John W. Hinton
Sir, The industrial cities of Scotland have a considerable crime problem and the number of convicted criminals in prisons per head of the population is probably higher in Scotland than in any other EEC country. It is astounding, therefore, to discover that in proportion to the expenditure of the Home Office (England and Wales), the Scottish Office is allowing less than one third of what it should, for research into the problems of crime. The Home Office Research Unit has an estimated expenditure of £1,100,000 per annum, compared with a mere £40,000 per annum allocated in Scotland.

Necessary long term funding of prospective studies of a multi-

in any sense a stooge; nor is Mr Chikereke; as for Chief Chikere, if he is acceptable to the other black leaders why is he not acceptable to Dr Owen?

Once again, Sir, I urge you and your readers to consider the strategic consequences of the Owen-Vance plan. At the end of the inevitable civil war, we would have yet another Soviet-backed, anti-Western regime in Africa, further threatening access to indispensable minerals and extending the Soviet empire.

It is astonishing that the men now in charge of our foreign policy pay so little heed to the lessons of recent history. In 1962, the British and American Governments were inviting us to congratulate them on their success in bringing the three factions in Laos—communist, neutralist and anti-communist—together. I was among those who pointed to the predictable result. Look at Laos today: where are the neutralists and the right-wingers?

From exile or concentration camp, they can see that their country has passed under the control of the Soviet Union's Vietnamese protégés. Why condemn the people and leaders of Rhodesia to a similar fate? Why help the Soviet pressure and surrogates? The hard-pressed Rhodesian security forces will doubtless fight on for some months. To hit sanctions now would boost their morale and give them at least a chance of victory over their enemies, who, on any objective analysis, are also our enemies. It is contemptible to deny them this chance and absurd to aid terrorism in Southern Africa while fighting it elsewhere.

Yours very truly, BRIAN CROZIER, 112 Bridge Lane, Slough, Berkshire, NW11 2JL.

Also in view of prevailing practice concerning the matrimonial home and the proposed regarding common ownership contained in the recent Law Commission report on family property it is not surprising that the law on maintenance is seen by many self-respecting women as degrading and by men as inequitable.

Until the full implications of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 are accepted by allowing dead marriages to be legally buried thus relieving ex-husbands of an open ended liability to support and discouraging the desire for vengeance from partners long since departed, truly civilized divorce will not be achieved. All too often it is the children who suffer most from the present divorce system in which they are used as pawns in a game of blackmail.

Sadly a high proportion of one parent families will be obliged to rely on Social Security as the simple arithmetic of dividing members of poorer families into two households makes it inevitable. Yours faithfully, THORNTON V. Families Need Fathers, 10 Hartley Close, Bromley, Kent.

disciplinary nature cannot, therefore, take place—despite the fact that the expertise and technology is now available at Glasgow University. Empirical research, which could lead to improvement of predictions on parole and discharge of potentially dangerous offenders, is thwarted. J. W. HENTON, Senior Research Fellow in Criminology, Adam Smith Building, University of Glasgow.

Defending freedom

From Mr William Wallace
Sir, I was fascinated to read Professor von Hayek's letter of July 11, opposing to argue that authoritarian governments may defend freedom better than democracies. Could I encourage him, or those who think like him, to offer us through your columns any examples of such an extraordinary doctrine? It may well be true that Conservatives prefer "limited democracy" to a really open system of democratic government. It is, quite another thing to suggest that they should "contemplate" authoritarian government instead. Yours faithfully, WILLIAM WALLACE, 49 St James's Drive, SW17.

Tax complications

From Mr Richard Wiggs
Sir, I have had texts for Lord Russell of Killowen (July 14). The package of National Insurance and Income tax papers relating to his cook housekeeper, which is identical to one I received two weeks ago, is only the beginning. Within minutes of reading his letter I have received a second package which, at 11b 10oz, is three times the weight of the first, and contains 27 further documents comprising (at a quick count) 378 pages.

Since these papers appear to refer to employees and not to me, and I employ no one, I presume and hope they have been sent to me in error. To understand and deal with them would take many days of work—dreadful, unproductive and unpaid. The only way I can see of dealing with them are to shelve them and see what else arrives, to send them back (with Official Paid reply label mercifully provided), or possibly to send them to my accountant and hope he will not charge me for whatever he does with them.

If I had a cook-housekeeper, and if employing her necessitated coping with all this stuff, I should feel inclined to sack her and do her work myself; possibly both of us could then claim the dole, and/or National Assistance. At least I now understand slightly better than previously why we all have to pay so much to the income tax and National Insurance funds. Yours faithfully, RICHARD WIGGS, Fairfield House, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.

Necessary long term funding of prospective studies of a multi-

Prices and cost of CAP

From Lord Walston
Sir, In The Times of July 19 you quoted Mr Barnett as saying that "the only way a big reduction could be achieved in the cost of the CAP would be to freeze support prices of surplus products until the surplus disappeared."

I share with Mr Barnett and many others dismay at the cost of the Common Agricultural Policy and the accumulated surpluses that it has engendered. But I cannot agree with him that a freeze on prices is the only way to deal with the problem. It would, in fact, be counter-productive in the short term; and in the long term would harm the consumer.

Farmers do all that they can to maintain their total income. The first reaction, therefore, to a freeze in prices at a time of inflation is to produce more. The second reaction is to curtail investment. Wise investment is an essential weapon in increasing productivity and thereby reducing costs. In the long run agricultural efficiency would be improved, costs would fall, and the consumer would eventually have to foot the bill.

The most effective way of restricting the cost of the Common Agricultural Policy is to adopt a method of support for many years in the future of "supported quantities." With such a system farmers would be guaranteed a remunerative price sufficient to finance new investment; but this price would only be paid for the quantity of each commodity that it was decided by the Council of Ministers the consumers of the Community required. There are many techniques by which such standard quantities could be enforced. Quotas are only one of them, and not necessarily the most effective. It would be a disaster if, in the very reasonable manner of the pressure for a form of Common Agricultural Policy, it was accepted that a freezing of prices was the only means by which the situation could be improved.

Yours truly, WALSTON, 424 Albany, Piccadilly, W1.

From Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP for Bury St Edmunds (Conservative)
Sir, In the same column of today's The Times (July 19) you report the Financial Secretary's onslaught on the Common Market's agricultural policy and, below, the depressing news of an NOP poll showing that a clear majority of Conservative, as well as Labour, voters is now opposed to British membership. Is there not a connexion between these two items?

The CAP is costly, bureaucratic and unpopular. The Commission and

Money for art galleries

From Mr Roy Morris
Sir, Mr Lazarus makes a number of allegations in his letter to The Times of July 11 which need publicly refuting. It is surprising that he should write in the manner in which he does. He recently attended a meeting of the Bristol City Council's Arts and Leisure Committee to discuss the future programme for the City Museum and Art Galleries, where all these points were discussed.

The funds for new purchases are indeed small in this financial year, but our revenue budget for the Museum and Art Galleries in 1978-79 is over three quarters of a million pounds, which we spend principally on maintenance, redecoration, display of exhibits, staff and security. In addition, we have opened two new museums in recent years: at St Nicholas Church (which was placed among the top 15 in the national competition for European Architectural Heritage Year) and at Bristol 17 of this year the new Bristol Industrial Museum, which has already received over 72,000 visitors. We are currently acquiring a new collection of ancient glass of national significance, a part of which is at present on display in

Drugs in sport

From the President of the European Athletic Association
Sir, During the EEC early sports news this morning the reader announced: "A second rider in the Tour de France was disqualified for taking a dope test. The victim was..." and then proceeded to give the name of the perpetrator of what must be a premeditated, calculated, form of cheating.

Surely the victims were sport, fairplay and his fellow competitors. It is a peculiarly inverted standard of morality to suggest otherwise and particularly undignified to those responsible governing bodies who are doing their best to eradicate the illicit use of drugs in sport. Yours faithfully, ARTHUR GOLD, President, European Athletic Association, 49 Friern Mount Drive, Whetstone, N20, July 18.

Length of nautical mile

From The Director of the Hydrographic Board
Sir, The Hydrographic Department has issued a Notice to Mariners on their adoption of the international nautical mile. Apparently Lieutenant-Commander Peter Kemp (Letter of July 21) has not seen it. It was issued in September, 1970, and is numbered 1518/70. Yours, etc, F. LACEY, 22 Kingsway, WC2.

Territorial Army's name

From Mr Paul Butterbury
Sir, I cannot agree with Major Salisbury (The Times, July 6) that if Major-General Shapland's proposal that the T and AVR be renamed the Territorial Army were to go forward there would be a serious risk of confusion with the force that existed before April 1967, over 11 years ago.

The fact is that despite that change in name, volunteers have always spoken of their employers and others, of being "in the

the Council of Ministers might by now have brought forward proposals for its radical reform. Until they do, they should not be surprised if the whole of the EEC suffers, at least in Britain, from the apathy that is attached, not always very fairly, to its agriculture and food policies.

Ministers and MPs who still openly (or covertly) oppose British membership nevertheless must accept a good deal of responsibility for misleading the public about the size of the problem created by the CAP. I can understand that supporters of the present Government find it convenient to blame Europe, rather than their own policies, for the 104 per cent increase in food prices since 1974; but surely the Financial Secretary, who knows better, has a duty to tell the truth—or at least not to obscure it. By his own department's calculations, barely 13 per cent of this alarming increase arises from the membership of the EEC. I wonder how many of those who told NOP that they wish we had not joined Europe were aware of this? Is it not more likely that most had been misled by suggestions, like Mr Eric Heffer's, that virtually all the blame for the rise in food prices can be laid at the door of the EEC?

All those who, like me, want Britain to play a more positive role in making a success of the Community, clearly need to work harder to convey the far from simple truth about the EEC to those whom we represent. What a pity that we cannot look to HM ministers to do the same.

Yours, etc, ELDON GRIFFITHS, House of Commons, July 19.

European elections

From Mr D. R. Digby
Sir, Elections to the European Parliament take place in less than a year.

There are thousands of British expatriates who have no United Kingdom parliamentary vote, nor were they permitted to vote in the United Kingdom referendum (confirmation of the report in the Financial Secretary's onslaught on the Common Market's agricultural policy and, below, the depressing news of an NOP poll showing that a clear majority of Conservative, as well as Labour, voters is now opposed to British membership. Is there not a connexion between these two items?)

The CAP is costly, bureaucratic and unpopular. The Commission and

Hanover. In addition to this, there has been extensive expenditure on the total rehousing and reorganization of our reserve collections over the past six years so that they are now second to none among provincial museums.

The question of opening hours is one which is in the forefront of the Committee's interest but, as Mr Lazarus well knows, the real issue is not money but the contracts of employment of existing staff and when we had the opportunity to start afresh, as we did with the Industrial Museum, we took pains to ensure that the building would be open to the public throughout the weekend and on bank holidays. The policy of the present Council is against charging entrance fees, except for certain special events, and the wisdom of this was borne out by the disastrous results when a scheme for charging entrance fees for national museums was introduced for a brief period a few years ago.

Yours faithfully, ROY MORRIS, Chairman, Arts and Leisure Committee, Bristol City Council, Cooperative Retail Services Ltd., Fairfax House, Newgate, Bristol, July 12.

TA" and "going to TA camp" even if some of them mean by that spell reinforcing a regular unit, and this has gone some way towards countering the very popular belief that the "Terries" were abolished in 1967.

Few former members of the former Army Emergency Reserve would now oppose restoration of the old name Territorial Army, which to the ordinary citizen means that it is a locally raised body of part time volunteer soldiers. Yours faithfully, PAUL BATTERBURY, 3 Hare Court, Temple, EC4.

Red skies

From Mr Andrew Pigdon
Sir, Mr Martin Reich (July 19) need not leave his son in suspense any longer. Sunsets are regular, rather sunnier and that makes them redder. Each day rising clouds of hot air carry tons of dust miles upwards and each night it slowly descends again as the air cools. It is not the passage through greater amounts of atmosphere which reddens sunrises but passage through denser dust clouds. Rayleigh's law has it that the refraction induced by dust on light beams is inversely proportional to the fourth power of the wavelength of the incident beams. Hence blue beams get diverted off course more than other beams. And thus the day sky is blue, since we see blue where we look away from the sun. Strong winds can spoil red sunsets and create red sunrises, so the shepherds were right all along. Yours faithfully, ANDREW PIGDON, 168 West Hill, SW15.

Table talk

From Mr A. J. Luker
Sir, First the "working" lunch, now the even earlier "working" breakfast. What next? Yours faithfully, A. JOHN LUKER, 35 St Mary's Park, Windermere, Cumbria.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

The history of controls on dividends, page 17

Oil take from oil companies in North Sea likely rise by 15pc

Hill, plans for submission to the state's oil companies of a new offshore oil resources, will be in a few days.

But the Treasury, which has been the mainstay of the oil industry, is now being investigated by the House of Commons. The investigation is being conducted by the Select Committee on the oil industry, which has been set up to investigate the oil industry's operations in the North Sea.

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Whitehall refuses to change plane decision

Industrial Staff

Mr Varley in particular sought clarification of M Joël le Theule, the French Transport Minister's statement that an order from British Airways for the new aircraft was a requirement for British participation in the Airbus project.

Mr James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, is to favour a link with the Cabinet's preferred decision to proceed with the B10 version of the Boeing and the Airbus.

Mr Healey agrees to talks on pay arbitration

By Patricia Tisdall, Management Correspondent

A plan to introduce arbitration procedures on pay settlements is about to be discussed between government officials and employer representatives. Negotiations earlier this year failed to win more than a minor concession for the employers.

But Mr Denis Healey, the Chancellor, has agreed, in view of his intention to continue using this type of sanction, to examine with the Confederation of British Industry new methods of arbitration.

Talks on this and other aspects of the sanctions are expected to be resumed after an emergency meeting this week of the CBI members principally concerned with government contracts. As well as deciding on its appropriate overall response to the continued use of sanctions, the meeting will discuss whether a way can be found to make them acceptable.

An independent arbitration structure, which could adjudicate on whether a settlement complied with the incomes policy could be a function of the "central mechanism" (possibly an independent body reporting to Parliament) which the CBI would like to be set up to study the whole question of long-term pay bargaining arrangements.

The CBI is extremely unhappy with the existing system, under which interpretation of the pay guidelines is left to the discretion of the Department of Employment. The Secretary of State then has a month in which to express a view and where he has doubts, a further month in which to reach a decision.

But a reference by the purchasing department of even a suspected breach enables it to withhold any increase in labour costs since the date of the contract. If the Secretary of State certifies that the pay settlement has breached the guidelines, the purchasing department can then terminate the contract.

EEC policymakers start work on mechanism for a new monetary system

Ministers tackle Bremen resolutions

From Peter Norman, Brussels, July 23

Finance ministers from the nine member states of the European Community face a difficult meeting in Brussels tomorrow as they start turning the Bremen communiqué into a workable plan.

The Bremen document was agreed by all nine leaders at the EEC summit on July 7. Since then European policymakers have been working on the details of its implementation.

With both fundamental issues and detailed questions as yet unclear, the EEC Finance Ministers had specific instructions to draw up guidelines so that the competent Community bodies—the EEC monetary committee and the central bankers

involved—can go ahead and work out by October 31 the provisions necessary to make the new system function.

The French-German plan as published in the Bremen communiqué is accepted as the starting point for further work, although there is provision to amend it if necessary.

It is thought probable that Mr Denis Healey, the Chancellor, will dwell tomorrow on the need to specify the criteria against which any scheme for greater monetary cooperation should be judged.

He outlined these in Luxembourg in June at the last meeting of EEC finance ministers, but they were barely touched upon in the Bremen document.

Mr Healey's criteria are of a fairly fundamental nature. Among other things he wants any scheme to involve symmetry, or the placing of equal obligations on surplus as well as deficit countries.

The British also want to make sure that any new scheme will remove constraints on growth rather than increase them, and that it will not prevent exchange rate adjustments insofar as these are necessary to reflect real differences in economic performance.

Another British condition is that any new scheme should be durable. Here Mr Healey can probably expect backing from the Dutch who fear that a larger new European monetary system would be weaker and therefore more liable to collapse than the existing European currency snake.

On the other hand, the German Federal Bank is worried that greater monetary cooperation could reintroduce inflation into the Federal Republic.

If there are wide-ranging differences at a fundamental level, the scope for dispute is even greater on questions of detail.

Among the main unresolved points are the exact role of the European currency unit (the ECU) which is supposed to be at the centre of the new system, and the method of fixing the exchange rate relationships between the participating currencies.

The Bremen document refers tentatively to "central rates" but leaves unclear whether these should be defined in terms of nominal exchange rates, as in the existing market, or in terms of the ECU, which is a weighted basket of EEC currencies equivalent to the existing European unit of account, or even in terms of a larger basket of currencies.

The EEC monetary committee had a first stab at these problems when it met in Brussels last week, but it is doubtful whether it came any closer to finding a solution.

On the technical level, uncertainties also surrounded the relationship of any new monetary system with third currencies, and especially the dollar. Although Herr Helmut Schmidt, the German Chancellor, has expressed the conviction that the Bremen model would not harm the dollar, its likely impact on the Country's exchange rates will probably have to be subjected to much deeper study.

Given the outstanding problems, the timetable for progress towards a new European monetary system is ambitious. Only a limited number of countries are allowed to determine the provisions necessary for the functioning of the scheme, and it is now only 41 months to the next European council meeting on December 4 and 5 when the EEC leaders are due to make the relevant commitments.

One of the first decisions at tomorrow's ministerial meeting will probably be to give the go-ahead to a top-level working group of the EEC monetary committee, which will then work through the traditional channels to the Council of Ministers.

By the end of last week, some 10-year mortgage bonds were yielding 7 per cent compared to a low of 5.7 per cent at the end of February.

These developments are bad news for Germany's economic policymakers.

Higher interest rates push up business costs and can deter investment. Over a year, a 1 per cent rise in long-term interest rates costs German industry and commerce about DM4,000m, or roughly a third of the economic stimulus now proposed.

Federal Bank bond purchases also upset money supply policy, although for the moment this is probably of secondary consideration as Germany's money target has been exceeded ever since the dollar slumped last November without any detrimental impact so far on the rate of price increases.

More serious are the implications for the financing of Germany's net public sector deficit.

The Federal Government alone will have to raise DM5,000m gross a month for the rest of this year, and at present with the unpleasant choice of joining the trend for higher interest rates or drastically cutting the life of its new issues and so magnifying in two or three years the problems of deficit financing.

Although Herr Schmidt wrote a "get-out" clause into the Bonn communiqué by specifying that the size of the promised stimulus "will take account of the absorptive capacity of the capital market," he can hardly invoke it at present.

In the meantime, Bonn can only hope that the relatively large real interest rate of 4 per cent on long-term government stock will keep through into investor consciousness.

Warning on put-through deal abuses

By Richard Allen

Fears that Stock Exchange rules covering "put-through" deals are not always being observed have led to a warning note being issued to member firms.

The note draws stockbrokers' attention to a planned slight rewording of the rules and amendments to the Exchange Code of Dealing covering transactions which are arranged effectively outside the market.

Most put-through business arises when a broker has a client wishing to sell a line of shares and another willing to buy at the same price. The business is put through the market with the broker merely "rubber-stamping" the deal for a reduced fee.

CEGB and unions ready for battle

on Benn aim to boost coal-burning

By Donald MacIntyre

Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, will face stiff resistance from the power supply unions to any attempt to force the Central Electricity Generating Board to burn more coal.

The electricity unions are already voicing opposition to what they interpret as hints that Mr Benn might interfere with the merit order by which the CEGB decides which power stations should supply the grid at any time in strict accordance with cost efficiency.



Mr John Lyons: forecasts justified.

At a meeting of the industry's National Joint Coordinating Council last week, the unions registered opposition to any political intervention in the board's use of resources and argued that any help for the coal industry should not be at the expense of the board's performance or increase consumer charges.

Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union and the Electrical Power Engineers Association will put similar arguments at a meeting this week of the TUC fuel and power industries committee. The National Union of Mineworkers will be at the meeting though the power supply workers' leaders will stress they do not want a row with them.

Their anxiety arises partly from Mr Benn's announcement to the NUM conference in Torquay two weeks ago that he intended an "urgent" examination of ways of increasing coal use to offset fuel imports.

The potential conflict has been sharpened by the wide difference in estimates by the CEGB on the one hand, and the National Coal Board on the other, of the amount of coal to be burned in power stations in the next two decades, compared with oil and nuclear energy.

As disclosed recently in *The Times*, the CEGB expects coal output in 1985 to be 20 million tons less than the 15 million tons estimated by the NCB. The CEGB expects to burn between 65 and 75 million tons rather than the 80 million assumed in

Part-time aid me 'deters' less—BIM

Government proposals to provide compensation for short-term workers seem to penalize industries which have effective manpower or have relatively small short-term needs, according to the Institute of Management.

The Institute's Employment published by the Institute says: "Successful firms would be able to finance special measures for 'lame ducks', less successful firms would be forced to meet the needs of difficult industries, not equitable."

World trade

European Economic Community today opens trade negotiations with 53 third countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

The "Lomé Agreement" provided for some £2,600m assistance to help the Third World nations to be covered.

Personal Savings up

Personal Savings, including interest, recorded a net increase of £103.2m in the five ended July 7. Provisional figures show receipts in the National Savings and National Savings Security Fund of £1,445.6m.

Mer talks fail

Representatives from copper mining and consuming countries again failed to agree on elements for setting an international copper price to monitor stability of markets, according to the UN Conference on Trade and Development in Geneva on Saturday.

Brussels blessing for ships fund

By Our Industrial Correspondent

EEC approval of the Government's plan to provide a further tranche of money to help to secure merchant ship orders for Britain's largely state-owned industry is expected to be announced shortly.

For several months Britain has been seeking approval from the European Commission for its plan to provide a sum of £80m in the form of a second intervention fund for British Shipbuilders.

The first fund, established more than 18 months ago to provide subsidies to close the gap between United Kingdom prices and those of foreign competitors, has been practically exhausted.

But the Commission—particularly officials of the competition directorate—has delayed approval until the United Kingdom Government and British Shipbuilders supplied detailed answers to their questions.

Department of Industry officials and British Shipbuilders have attempted to persuade the Commission of the validity of the fund and it appears that formal approval will be soon forthcoming from Brussels. But the approval will be of a provisional nature.

British Shipbuilders is required to produce a corporate plan by the end of this year and much of the information which has been sought by the Commission will be incorporated in the plan.

The Commission appears to have been convinced that British Shipbuilders is adopting a realistic approach to its forward planning and that the second intervention fund is compatible with the Community's longer-term objectives for rationalizing the industry.

The Community's plan for reorganizing the shipbuilding industry is scheduled to be discussed at tomorrow's meeting of the Council of Ministers, and it is possible that the ministers will approve a resolution endorsing the broad outline of the Community's plan.

Britain, the Community is expected to place less emphasis on a formal target of a 46 per cent reduction in Community shipyard capacity over the next three years.

Britain and other states have attacked the concept of a target reduction in capacity as unrealistic, although United Kingdom ministers and senior executives of British Shipbuilders have acknowledged that market circumstances will lead inevitably to a contraction of capacity and a reduction in numbers employed.

Britain has argued that its plans for a further intervention fund are compatible with Community aims since it is preparing the ground for contraction through the introduction of a special redundancy scheme for shipyard workers.

The draft orders, which have to be approved by both Houses of Parliament, giving effect to the redundancy provisions, are due to be debated this week.

Disclosure to Burmah 'against public interest'

It was essential for the workings of government that it should not have to disclose information received in confidence, crown counsel argued in the High Court on Friday.

Mr John Vinelott, QC, for the Attorney-General, said: "That includes information given to ministers, senior officials and the Bank of England by outside people, including officers of companies, in the knowledge that it will be entered in confidential files."

Mr Vinelott was opposing an application by Burmah Oil for the disclosure of 62 documents relating to the transfer of its holding of more than 82 million British Petroleum shares to the Bank of England in return for support during the company's 1975 financial crisis.

Burmah says it needs the documents in its £500m claim against the Bank over the transfer. The Government maintains that the documents cannot be produced because they are covered by Crown privilege. Burmah says its claim is a purely commercial action, and privilege does not extend that far.

Lloyds Bank Group Results

First six months of 1978

Group profit before tax was £76m
Out of this, taxation takes £40m and the interim dividend takes £8m, so profit retained is £28m.

This goes to support growing world-wide operations and a balance sheet which now totals over £13,900 million.

Lloyds Bank Group

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MANAGEMENT

MFI: the techniques of unrestricted growth

If there is a golden rule for building a successful retail business, it has to be the identification of consumers' requirements, then to supply and to satisfy the latent demand with vigour. Opportunities are few and far between, but they exist.

Proof of the rule is MFI furniture centres, a lusty merchandise of standardized furniture which has ignored the traditional high street and restrained spectacular growth by pin-pointing a previously frustrated desire for fast service.

Furniture retailing has always been a bulky, high margin, slow-to-deliver trade, conducted often in inconvenient places by shopkeepers frequently unable to guarantee delivery and always at the mercy of suppliers. Psychologists to a man, the MFI managers are essentially salesmen able to offer keenly priced goods with speed and without fuss.

Satisfaction is immediate. It comes in cardboard boxes, flat, cubed or oval.

Every Saturday, or on days off, thousands of people take to their cars and descend on MFI's 57 showrooms, usually situated well away from residential high streets, to be brushed, chumped TV commercials—or perhaps clutching display advertisements torn from popular newspapers—they arrive, buy, and carry off pre-packed furniture stuffed in car boots or sucking the foot racks (always available, if needed). The customers undertake their own delivery. There are no weeks of waiting before the furniture arrives.

At home Father, with a screwdriver and a saw, starts assembling the new dining room chairs, fitted wardrobe, or any one of dozens of the items which have been displayed in room settings at the MFI centre. Don't yourself have the own satisfaction, and MFI pays the closest attention to instructions for self-assembly to ensure sufficient simplicity while allowing the feeling of accomplishment. Behind the scenes, testers and checkers are constantly monitoring the factory packed products for potential hazards, faults, and incorrect instructions.

MFI started life 14 years ago as a direct mail order company, reaching its market through the national press. In 1966, the founders, Noel Lister and the late Donald Searle, opened their first retail outlet—and five years later the company went public with a turnover of £6m. Mail order sales fell, and new retail centres opened. Four



Jack Seabright, MFI's joint managing director

years ago the vulnerable postal trade was abandoned in favour of retail stores. Sales moved quickly to £12m plus.

Stores were deliberately sited away from main centres to allow for car parks and convenient pick-up points where customers' cars could be loaded off busy roads. Prices were kept exceptionally low, and a rising volume of sales added to MFI's buying power with suppliers, who had to adapt to mass orders and whose labour costs were reduced by customers undertaking self assembly.

Most products had to be designed, developed and manufactured exclusively for MFI, which saw a need for occasional furniture, leisure furnishings, fitted kitchens, and items such as home desks. Many of these lines were suited to pre-packing and self assembly.

Flat packing means that storage capacity is used effectively in the warehousing behind showrooms and in containerized transport. Every week's surplus of huge trucks pull into a 200,000 square foot central distribution warehouse on an industrial estate outside Bedford. This is now Britain's biggest furniture warehouse, and a new nerve centre for controlling

half the stock supplied to the network of showrooms.

The level of demand can be readily seen at Bedford, and MFI cruised through the retail recession for furniture, raising its volume as well as value of sales in startling fashion.

Though inflation hit the furniture trade hard, MFI's low margin high volume techniques brought the customers flocking.

MFI is a cash and carry wholesaler which happens to sell to the public, cutting out middlemen and giving suppliers the mass orders which produce remarkably low prices. There have been problems, of course. No business which grows from a turnover of under £500,000 to over £50m in 14 years can escape the difficulties of management control, financing, stock, and inadequate premises.

Brought in to tackle some of the difficulties of growth, happy as that state might seem to competitors, was Jack Seabright, an enthusiastic manager, who is now joint managing director and bringing unrestrained growth under his more scientific control.

Seabright, a former executive with Coats Paton and later a backroom staffer at the National Economic Develop-

ment Office, exudes excitement at building up what is now one of Britain's faster growing businesses.

"The City constantly underestimates us," he says. "We are no longer in mail order, and our record speaks for itself. The evidence of our trade and growth is there for anyone who cares to look for themselves. It is easy with our kind of heady progress to get carried away, but we have been steadily developing systems of accounting and stock control to enable us to handle an organic growth which few managers outside our business will ever experience."

MFI can now monitor with more precision its movements of stock from factory to furniture centre, anticipating trends and never hesitating to clear out a line at a loss if sales stick.

Relationships with suppliers are close, and some have received financial help to smooth over the problems of bulk orders. The risk of which furniture manufacturers have never quite seen before.

MFI, which now has a staff of 1,600, is controlled by an 11-member management committee. At the heart is Mr Lister, who is the entrepreneurial force in product selection and promotion, and Mr Seabright, the planner.

Stocks are financed out of a positive cash flow, deferred taxation, and retained profits. They are turned over five times a year.

New furniture showrooms have to offer 20,000 to 25,000 square feet, half for warehousing, and, while they stretch from Plymouth to Dundee and from Swansea to Norwich, the management is still searching for new sites, particularly in some big cities including London and Birmingham.

A turnover of £100m is confidently expected in four or five years, much of the growth being in volume and not simply value gains due to the opening of new branches.

MFI went through its inevitable crisis in the period 1972 to 1974, when a volatile mail-order-based business threatened the enterprise. The company has since been transformed and staged its comeback as a very different concern, freed from mail order, and always able to conform with the pattern of its sales from strong stocks.

MFI sees its future in upgrading the quality and service of the retail branches. In the meantime, the emphasis remains on price.

Maurice Corina

Courses for 'neglected' wives

The problem of "corporate bigamy" is under study at the Henley Administrative Staff College, where Lady Peggy Lindsay is organizing week-long courses for businessmen's wives who feel neglected.

The courses—which are widely praised by psychologists and industrial psychologists—try to help women to understand their husbands' jobs and sympathize with the prolonged absences from home to which they often give rise. Lady Lindsay says that her courses are designed to get the women "more involved with their men and their work by practical means and psychological insight."

At present fewer than a third of British companies sponsor employees' wives for the Henley courses, the reason given by many of them being that they do not wish to be paternalistic.

But, according to Lady Lindsay, "the truth is they do not wish to be realistic, because even the most intelligent women can, in the face of their husbands' work, be at their wits' end, full of frustration and suspicion."

"The damage can be widespread. Everyone is a casualty—wife, husband, children, company. What men and their employers have to discover is a way of life that enables a man to function at his very best as both an executive and head of the family."

"We have a very serious problem here that is being blithely ignored all the time by most companies. Too many companies and their male employees justify the neglect of their families by earning lots of money."

Wives attending the Henley courses do so in the company of their husbands while they are attending other management courses in the college separately. The cost of taking the wife along is only £50.

Women are able to compare notes, discuss mutual problems and analyse the nature of the demands put upon their husbands by company managements. Virginia Novarra, a solicitor with the Department of Industry, who recently addressed an all-woman seminar at Henley, says: "Isolation of women is their most deadly enemy. By joining a feminist group you break down your isolation, exchange ideas and realize there are lots of other women who have the same problems as you."

Bob Crew

Government help for the motor cycle industry

From Mr Geoffrey Robinson, MP for Coventry North-West (Labour)

Sir, Clifford Webb's article, "Meriden motorcycle scramble", (July 10) repeats a basic error and certain misleading allegations contained in Jack Bruce Gardyne's pamphlet to which he refers.

The claim that after government intervention in the motor cycle industry in 1973 "within four years, not £5m but £50m had vanished" is absurdly inaccurate. The Government has approximately £5m invested in Meriden and £2.5m in NVT—having written down its original investment in that company by about the same amount in the form of payment for the transfer of the selling rights to Meriden.

The only other form of Government financial commitment to either Meriden or NVT has been by way of export credit from ECDC. It is my understanding that NVT has repaid its entire facility with no loss whatsoever. ECDC—a considerable achievement, incidentally, given the circumstances in which it was required to do so.

As far as Meriden is concerned it has an ECDC facility of £5m of which only £3m is currently being utilized. The Meriden facility is under section 2 of the ECDC Act and since this, and indeed, the role of ECDC more widely, is criticized it is informative to see how the arrangements with Meriden operate.

Since section 2 is designed to deal with business which ECGD would consider containing too high an element of commercial risk, it is right that it should have the maximum security that is available. Accordingly ECDC has a lien on all unsold Meriden motorcycles, financed by its guarantee, whether these are held in the United Kingdom pre-shipment pool or in warehouses abroad, mainly, of course, in the United States which takes

over 70 per cent of all Meriden's exports.

In addition, a Trust Account is operated in the United States into which the entire proceeds from the sale of each motor cycle are paid. The Meriden United States subsidiary company thus receives its net margin only after ECDC has been paid.

It would be improper to disclose what the margin is between the CIF value guaranteed by ECDC and the price to the dealer. But I would say with a knowledge of the facts that it should be adequate, to cover ECDC's risk in the case of large-scale forced selling, having to be undertaken. Indeed, the NVT experiment confirms this point.

It is regrettable that the cost to the taxpayer of the Government's involvement in the motor cycle industry should have been so ludicrously exaggerated. Perhaps that is just party politics. But it is inexcusable that the Centre for Policy Studies should have been the vehicle for such irresponsible criticism of the ECDC which has proved itself so efficient and commercially sound an organization.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY ROBINSON,
Formerly Financial and Commercial Advisor to Meriden
House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA.

First refinery

From Mr Henry G. Burton

Sir, Mr A. H. R. Christian (July 13) is seeking information about an oil well of 1847 near Allerton in Derbyshire. This was probably connected with the first oil refinery in Great Britain. According to the *Shell Book of Facts*, this refinery was established by James Young & Riddings in Derbyshire in the year 1848.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY G. BURTON,
7 Amburst Court,
Grange Road,
Cambridge CB3 9BH.

Qualifications for marketing

From Mr John Freeman

Sir, It is true, as Mr Eric Morgan observes in his letter (July 14), that unqualified and inexperienced managers are often put into important marketing positions. This is all the more surprising when it is realized that professional training in communications, advertising and marketing has been going on for close on 50 years in this country and has been described by one American commentator as "way ahead of anything in the States".

Both the CAM Foundation and the Institute of Marketing have been consistently promoting the nature of their qualifications over the years and it is sad to record the high level of indifference shown by British industry as a whole.

May I invite employers to be on the look-out for 10,000 or more qualified people who certainly have a trained understanding of what marketing is all about? As for those who believe that marketing cannot be taught, let them interview a

Minimum pension benefits

From Mr Martin Pa

Sir, In his article out, early leavers' p (July 8), Mr Eric Bru that "the chances are individual's earnings increase faster than average" generally. I circumstances the state need minimum pension to be less than the actual pension, because up at a lower rate."

I should be interested to know why assumptions that old schemes are move up faster than the average of which a such a position is widely rates of increase and in some the rate may tend and in others more.

In the former case sequence will be guaranteed, minimum for those affected a larger proportion of pension than was envisaged resulting a loss of cash commuted in the latter case sequence will be as a explains. But if some go up faster than the others must rise at the average and in d of contracting out or gain will be the only loss. There is a loss or drawback to come as a means of security retirement objectives.

To avoid this problem needs to establish a minimum scheme based on scheme requirements, perhaps, to coach Yours faithfully,
MARTIN PATTERSON,
Managing Director,
Martin Patterson Associates Limited,
10 Hertford Street,
Park Lane,
London W1J 8JX,
July 17.

Schiphol's campaign no flight of fancy?

A marketing campaign launched by Amsterdam's Schiphol airport authorities in London last week could start a chain reaction. Already the British Airports Authority, using the new underground link to Heathrow as a peg, has started advertising its facilities to travellers in Holland as well as in Britain. Other airports' publicity may also soon stray outside national boundaries.

While it will be a long time before the airports' advertising budgets matches those of the airlines (collectively these spent almost £9m on newspaper and television advertising alone in Britain last year), Schiphol's venture is indicative of the new competitiveness which is affecting all aspects of air transport.

Behind their extravagant claim that they can "solve London's third airport debate", the Dutch airport marketing team's more serious message is that national boundaries may no longer be relevant in modern aviation.

The development of long-range aircraft, together with the new price flexibility in fares, is fast breaking down traditional barriers of distance and cost. Add to that the easing of travel formalities brought about by the enlargement of the EEC and the widening scope for competition between airports becomes clear.

Mr Jan Wegstapel, president of the Schiphol Airport Authority, believes that airline economics, brought about partly by the pressure on fares, will shortly mean radical reductions in the number of airports used by the inter-continental airlines. He expects traffic into Europe from America, Africa, the Middle East, the rest of Asia and the Pacific to become concentrated into only four, or possibly five, major airports.

Obvious leading contenders are London, Paris and Frankfurt. "There will be one or two other major airports attracting the airlines operating on these routes, but whether they will be Copenhagen, Rome or Amsterdam remains to be seen", Mr Wegstapel says.

Schiphol's London advertising is part of a potentially much bigger marketing exercise to make sure that it keeps a share of the business. The campaign, which will be conducted in West End stores as well as on posters at Underground stations and on buses over the next six months, is intended to influence visiting Americans and other foreign tourists as well as Britons.

The initial aim is to make intending passengers aware that they can reach a wide range of destinations from Schiphol. Instead of using London as their entry point to Europe, Americans, for instance—the Schiphol airport authorities argue—could just as quickly and cheaply start their tour from Amsterdam (or finish it there).

Equally, they say, a Scot or an East Anglian travelling to the United States might find it more convenient to fly from his local airport to Schiphol



Jan Wegstapel, president of the Schiphol Airport Authority: "Traffic will concentrate on four or five major airports."

instead of going to Heathrow or Gatwick in order to catch a transatlantic flight. Once the passengers have been convinced, the authorities will approach the airlines who are their main customers. Mr Wegstapel says he wants his airport to be "first in the second league of European airports" and will welcome the small airlines which might find it difficult to obtain facilities in congested Heathrow or Gatwick.

The Dutch airport publicists are using the large number of destinations Schiphol serves as their prime selling point. As far as Britain is concerned, they make the astonishing claim that Schiphol serves more United Kingdom destinations than Heathrow and Gatwick combined. Its services, include flights to Bristol, Cardiff, East Midlands and Southampton, which are not matched by similar air services from either of the two London airports.

It can, of course, be argued that people travelling between these centres and London would prefer to use surface transport, anyway, rather than to fly from their local airport to make a connection at Schiphol. Nevertheless, as the experience of Air Anglia, the Norwich based airline set up to service Norfolk, shows, it is not impossible.

Another key component in the campaign, although not one which is being overtly stressed at this stage (presumably to

avoid antagonizing rival airports) is the high quality of Schiphol's passenger and airline handling facilities. Unlike the two overcrowded and cramped London airports, Schiphol has capacity to spare.

When opened 10 years ago, it handled only three million passengers a year. Now the total is nearer 10 million, but the facilities—still among the most modern in the world—were planned for 17 million and space has been reserved for up to 35 million.

An even more tangible benefit than its easier and quicker passenger and baggage handling is Schiphol's tax-free shopping centre which is said to be the largest and least expensive of its kind in the world. A survey of transfer passengers, carried out by the authorities, indicated that more than 20 per cent of them chose to transfer at Schiphol because of the duty-free shops.

Even Londoners, Mr Wegstapel believes, may be tempted to stop-over at Schiphol en route to Asia, Africa or South America for this reason.

The campaign is intended as a fairly light-hearted venture, but the Dutch newspapers describe it as "cheeky". But plans have already been made to carry it into the regions and, if it is successful, Schiphol will take a similar message to the United States in a serious bid to capture a stake in the fast-growing transatlantic air market.

Patricia Tisdall

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The tide turns back again

eyes of financial markets the events of the past two months have done much to the belief, increasingly widely held, that the British economy was about to sink back into all its ways. The crucial events have been the production of a tight "corset" on the money market, and the adoption last year of a five per cent pay guideline.

Formerly, while it has the unfortunate of reining back private sector expansion, the Government to fund its needs as an unduly high borrowing requirement, at least implies that the supply should remain under control, unquestionably dampen the growth of the economy at a time when it looked as if a consumer-led boom would stimulate inflationary pressures. The even allowing for slippage, suggests the middle of next year the sharp real wages which is fuelling growth will come to an end.

altogether, the effect should be to that the rise in the inflation rate due to later this year and on into 1979. Both moderate and short-lived, figure inflation by the end of the year next year still seems likely. Then, allowing, say, an 8 to 10 per cent in wages, prices will be rising in earnings with obvious disinflationary implications.

a development would be beneficial balance of payments by taking some of the pressure off the balance of trade. The Bonn Summit, it is, has done nothing to suggest a deflation in commodity prices. Commodity prices, the inflation rate again later in 1979, this should a reasonably firm £, which would, in help further to reduce the rate of 3.

implications are, of course, better for in for equities. If institutions believe of inflation will not stay above ten for very long they will find gift of up to 12½ per cent attractive and investment will have little difficulty in its needs.

industry, however, it would seem that um could begin to peter out only after the move to a higher plane of to meet today's rising consumer s. The world economy remains ingly dull with every prospect that ted States, 1978's one bright star, slowing down, too. So there will be stimulate exports, especially if the strengthens, and the outlook for which may rise by 10 to 15 per cent r thus remains unexciting.

days last week Mr Fukuda, the se Prime Minister, reaffirming his ment after the Bonn Summit to take of the sting from the country's trading by encouraging capital outflows in the of foreign borrowing on local a, indications have started to appear areas borrowers are becoming more about the yen bond market in Tokyo.

New Zealand Government is ed to be postponing its 50,000m yen or at least two weeks from the ed August launch because of weak- both the primary and secondary yen markets. The Brazilian Government's yen issue also had to be pitched on attractive terms than originally to appeal to investors and this higher rates has been confirmed in ing of the jumbo 75,000m yen issue a World Bank.

that the World Bank is having to und 21 points more than its current ond issue, international bond market or the fast growing yen issues may be pitched a little lower.

immediate cause for the weakness in lavely new capital market owes o fears that interest rates in Tokyo onomoted out while there have also gus—first seen with the highs called "il in new issues—that both the and after-market for yen bonds has owing indigestion.

its reopening last year, the yen market has been the fastest growing of the international bond market with ue-volume in the first half of this \$2,300m comparing with \$1,300m for

the whole of last year and no more than a few hundred million a year for the last few years.

For borrowers the attraction lies in being able to tap sizable funds for long periods at reasonably favourable rates at a time when other foreign bond markets have been in the doldrums. But it is just as clear that, with a thriving local bond market as well, there are not enough local investors to fill the primary and secondary markets all the time and that may well hasten the push to open up more of the yen bond market to overseas investors—currently no more than a quarter of new issues can be subscribed by foreigners. The trouble with that of course would be to make the yen bond market even more of a substitute speculation on the currency itself.

Money markets

A period of shortage

The Bank of England was fire-fighting in the money markets last week as if its life depended on it. The market was desperately short of short-term funds and the Bank had to use every weapon available to it to relieve the discount houses and keep the lid on short-term interest rates.

In the event, massive aid to the discount houses in the form of loans, Bank purchases of paper and repurchase agreements (in effect temporary purchases of paper by the Bank) kept the situation under some semblance of control, albeit that it did not prevent the overnight interbank rate touching 30 per cent at one stage.

What would have happened, however, had today's planned recall of £440m or so of Special Deposits by the Bank not been deferred for a further six weeks is anyone's guess. All of which makes it slightly puzzling as to just why the Bank originally alighted on today as an appropriate day for the recall, particularly given the largish tax payments due around this time.



Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England.

Part of the answer may be that the movement of funds is simply not that easy to predict, though there is a difference here between forecasting daily flows—a forecast surplus last Wednesday turned into a modest shortage by the end of the day—and in assessing the trend in flow over a rather longer period. It may, therefore, be that in its original projections the Bank underestimated the amount of liquidity that would be drawn out of the system by the gilt sales that followed the June 8 package, or that it has underestimated the extent of the private sector's appetite for credit.

Whatever the answer, and it is in all probability a combination of a number of factors, the shortage has been massive and is likely to remain for a little while longer, not least if the authorities consider the gilt market atmosphere conducive to pushing the funding programme along a little faster over the next couple of weeks.

On that basis ultra short-term interest rates will remain relatively high and the discount houses, paying around 10 per cent for a good part of their funds, will continue to make running losses on Treasury Bills being allotted on yields closer to 9½ per cent. The reasons why some houses continue to bid up for bills in spite of the high financing cost appears to be either that they are counting on making capital gains before too long or quite simply to ensure that they have sufficient holdings of liquid assets while they are running largish and reasonably profitable books in non-public sector assets.

Encouraging employees who want to be MPs

The Confederation of British Industry's report on "Parliamentary Candidates from Trade and Industry", published yesterday, deals with a subject which badly needs ventilating and it asks a lot of the right questions, even if it is sometimes short on convincing answers.

The problem is this: Parliament is increasingly devoting itself to complicated and highly important industrial and economic questions and in the post-war years governments—of both complexions—have become much more interventionist; yet the House of Commons is short of men and women who have had on-the-ground experience.

If it is accepted that a greater number of experienced industrialists in the House would be beneficial—and it might, of course, be argued that industry would get more from more expert lobbying of ministers from outside, instead of providing good executives as mere lobby-fodder—what can be done?

The CBI working committee, chaired by Lord Carr, the former Conservative Home Secretary, says that one of the most useful things companies can do, irrespective of size, is to welcome Parliamentary ambitions among their employees.

Some forward looking companies are already doing this. ICI deputy chairman Mr Ray Penock has said publicly that it

Malcolm Brown

is in the interest of both company and community for talented and motivated employees at every level to take up a political career—recognizing that whether they remain permanently in politics or return to industry, the experience they gain in both activities would be good for the individual, the company and the country.

To back up these sentiments the company has adopted a policy which allows an employee time off to fight an election and which, while insisting that he or she resigns on winning, guarantees re-employment, providing the person has at least five years' pensionable service.

Other large companies such as BP, Scottish and Newcastle Breweries and Shell also have stated policies on candidature. Will providing a framework like this throw up the right kind of people for the House? The danger must be that worthy as the sentiments are—Mr Penock uses the phrase "talented and suitable employees at every level"—the result may in fact be that only the second-rate will take advantage of the opportunities offered. How many rising stars will feel it safe to take time out from the climb up the executive ladder for a stay of indeterminate length in Parliament?

But then that is part of the democratic lottery. Certainly a company should have no rights to make qualitative judgments on candidates. The Carr report examines many areas which are likely to provoke controversy. Should company help be extended to all candidates (including extremists, racists and those working for the overthrow of free enterprise or even of parliamentary democracy)?

But perhaps the section which will cause most argument is that on the topping up of parliamentary salaries. While it makes it quite clear that there should be no general expectation of industry topping up salaries to business levels—and where it does happen it should be for genuine work done—the committee says that it would not wish to dissuade companies from topping up salaries as a simple gesture of generosity and goodwill.

It adds that only a minority of firms who responded to its survey indicated their willingness to consider topping up. But that minority and the potential abuse to which topping up may be open is bound to produce heated argument both inside and outside Westminster's corridors.

Gross dividends account for less than 3 per cent of personal incomes, so restraint has more to do with overall psychology than with striking a genuine blow against inflation.

But the Chancellor's latest measures certainly have a longer pedigree than is generally recognized. Dividend limitation effectively began in the war years when patriotism for companies was taken as meaning avoiding excessive payouts.

Later a voluntary freeze for one year was highly successful in 1948 and was succeeded by another year of moderation in 1949. Further periods of greater or lesser restraint followed.

Moderation continued with a greater or lesser degree of exhortation until 1951 when a Bill was announced to hold dividends compulsorily to the average modestly paid in the previous years. It immediately prompted dual announcements from companies involving the total that could be paid under the new legislation and the amount that would be paid otherwise. But a real conflict never arose as the Bill lapsed with the fall of the Labour Government.

Subsequently, under the Tories in 1955 the idea of serving the nation via dividend controls arose again and several companies voluntarily restrained payments. In 1961 the Tories once more presided over a squeeze.

However, the first legal restraint arose in 1965 with a freeze for six months followed by sufficiently tight control effectively to mean a one-year freeze. After that the Government continued to appeal for voluntary restraint.

In 1968 yet another squeeze began in the form of a 3½ per cent ceiling on wages, dividends and prices. Again this lapsed and again it was followed by appeals for moderation.

Then, in 1972, the Heath Government imposed a standstill, which excluded investment trusts. This was followed by a 5 per cent limit, again excluding investment trusts, but this was subsequently eased to allow larger increases in

Dividend controls: more irritating than effective?

A DECADE OF CONTROLS			
Percentage growth in corporate earnings	Percentage growth in dividends	Dividend restraint	
1967 - 0.3	+ 1.7	Freeze begins in July	
1968 +19.3	+ 5.6	3½ per cent ceiling from March	
1969 + 3.5	+ 3.2	Ceiling continues	
1970 + 5.8	+ 2.5	No controls except "moderation"	
1971 +16.1	+ 7.9		
1972 + 3.7	+ 5.6	Freeze in November	
1973 +41.3	+ 8.2	5 per cent limit	
1974 +18.2	+ 9.4	12½ per cent from July	
1975 -16.6	+13.5	10 per cent from July	
1976 +37.7	+14.0		
1977 + 8.0	+13.0		

Source: Phillips & Drew.

special circumstances, such as capital raising, takeovers and recovery situations. Mr Healey appeared on the scene to raise the ceiling to 12½ per cent in 1974 and from July 1, 1974, the present 10 per cent limit appeared for the first time.

This limit has lasted longer than any of its predecessors and in doing so has penetrated stock market thinking to the point where it has been accepted as a norm. As far as companies were concerned, it worked both ways. Successful high growth concerns found their dividend covers rising and the yields on their shares dwindling, while for many others the limit was a blessed relief—it prevented their slower growth being further highlighted by the slower rate of dividend increase.

But pressures began to build. Cash generated by companies like GEC could not be paid out and there was simply too much of it to find adequate investment outlets within the company.

There have been loopholes—takeovers and rights issues being the most conventional—but more hybrid arrangements were found which, as well as achieving other corporate aims, also conveniently won Treasury approval for higher dividend payouts.

Civil engineer Marchwiel Holdings created a new company called Marchwiel, and then sold itself to it for shares, thus freeing itself from restraint for two years. Beecham financed a United States acquisition via a bond issue through its Dutch subsidiary. This had to be made more attractive, by a dividend increase and the Treasury agreed.

Inchange attained freedom on the basis of its overseas assets, but Shell and Unilever were blocked in their attempt to use the same route. GEC itself adopted the more direct method of simply banding out floating rate bonds to shareholders.

All of this, as the table shows, means that dividend controls

always involve substantial slippage so that last year the 10 per cent norm became an actual increase of 13 per cent. Indeed, it can be asked whether controls have any general effect at all.

Stockbrokers Simon & Coates produced figures which showed that between 1960 and 1977 the retail price index rose by 271 per cent and dividend payments by 264 per cent. So prices grew at a rate of 8 per cent per year, while dividends increased by 7.9 per cent—a remarkable correlation in view of the numerous periods of restraint.

But that does nothing to allay the entrenched opposition to the whole idea within the City. The fundamental argument is that controls hopelessly distort the capital markets—a view which was supported by the Treasury in its evidence to the Wilson Committee.

The point is that yields are one part of the market equation. A set limit on their growth essentially changes the nature of equities, making them look more like fixed interest stocks and reducing the attraction of the stock market for both the small investor and the company seeking a quotation.

In practice this wider approach is difficult to sustain, as the multiplicity of situations average out in the figures. The real irritation arises in specific cases, like GEC, where the penalty of success is the need to search for loopholes.

In general, the latest controls are being taken as good for equities but, as they are the most baroque version yet devised, it seems inevitable that they will make the basic task of assessing investment yet more complex. Also, they make no concession to past success, so that a construction company that has made a massive dividend cover of more than 12½

Furthermore, with most estimates now pointing to fairly sluggish earnings growth of 12-13 per cent, the possibility of a substantial upward rating of the market yield, at present just over 5½ per cent, has suddenly become much more likely.

Bryan Appleyard

Today ministers of the EEC and 53 developing countries meet in Brussels to discuss the special links between them

Hard bargaining over Lomé

Today ministers from the nine European Community countries and 53 developing nations in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific will formally begin to consider how to extend their special relationship into the 1980s.

The half-day ministerial meeting in Brussels will set the tone for the ensuing negotiations which, if they proceed on schedule, should have laid the basis by Easter for a new Lomé Convention to replace the one signed in the capital of Togo in February, 1975.

The importance attaching to the new convention stretches far beyond the geographical confines and economic interests of the participants. Its probable content—aid, trade, investment and human rights, will touch on most of the issues that lie at the heart of the wider relationship between the world's rich northern nations and their poor southern neighbours.

Indeed, the negotiations between the EEC and the so-called "ACP" nations (Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific) represent a smaller-scale version of what is dubbed the "North-South Dialogue". As a result, the negotiations are as well as directly affecting the many developing nations which will not take part in the Lomé negotiations and whose interests may be prejudiced by their exclusion.

Under the first Lomé Convention was signed it was hailed as a model arrangement which could provide a pattern for future agreements between rich and poor nations. In practice, it has proved a good deal less attractive than seemed likely.

It has been attacked as a neo-colonial device for reinforcing the historical ties between former colonial nations like Britain, France and Belgium with their erstwhile territorial possessions that form the bulk of the ACP nations.

The European Community laid itself open to such charges by including in the Lomé Con-

vention only those former British colonies that were industrially unsophisticated and mainly exporters of raw materials, which western Europe imports in large measure.

India and other Asian countries, which are very competitive in many industrial sectors, were excluded from the convention. Similarly, Latin American countries, without colonial ties to the EEC, were also not invited to participate.

As a result, the proportion of the Third World population embraced by the Lomé Convention is fairly modest. Today, it covers about 285 million people in developing states, or rather less than half the population of India.

But what was surprising in the hard bargaining that preceded the signing of the first Lomé Convention were the concessions wrung out of the Community. Quite unexpectedly, the former French and British colonies sunk their differences and provided a firm unified front during the bargaining.

They were helped by the leverage given to them by the high level of commodity prices at that time.

The first Lomé Convention covered four main areas. These included provisions for many tropical agricultural, mineral and manufactured exports from ACP countries to be imported duty-free into the EEC. The convention also provided for technical and financial assistance to the ACP countries and measures to promote the stimulation and transfer of technology, capital and "know-how" necessary for the industrialization of the ACP states.

The fourth area covered by the convention—and the most novel—was what came to be known as the "Stabex" scheme. The intention of this was to stabilize the commodity export earnings of the participant developing countries.

Under this scheme the EEC makes special payments to ACP countries if their annual earnings from exports to the Community of certain commodities

fall short of an agreed level based on the average of the previous four years. Twelve products were originally covered: cocoa, coffee, cotton, wood, bananas, coconuts, palm oil, leather, groundnuts, tea, sisal and iron ore.

If earnings subsequently rise above the reference level (and volume is at average levels), the ACP exporter has to pay back the money, unless it was one of the two dozen very poorest participants. A new fund with £202.5m was created for the scheme.

Although rather adventurous, the Stabex scheme has many shortcomings, to which attention is drawn in a recent study, published by the Catholic Institute for International Relations, and prepared by Abby Rubin, a member of its research staff.

In a forceful critique of the Lomé Convention Mrs Rubin argues that in practice the complexities of the Stabex scheme create anomalies. It should be improved by separating the Stabex fund from the general aid budget and by both increasing the sums allocated to it and by bringing important commodities like sugar, rubber and copper within its ambit, the study suggests.

Furthermore, inflation ought to be allowed for in calculating how much ACP nations should have to repay to the Stabex fund.

Chancellor Schmidt of West Germany has suggested that copper should be included, but many EEC countries are against this on the grounds that it would cost too much.

Besides criticizing the Stabex scheme, Mrs Rubin also points to weaknesses in the areas of the first Lomé Convention dealing with aid, trade and industrial cooperation.

The Community is also censured for excluding many of the poorest nations from the convention.

However, it will be clear from today's opening statements launching the new negotiations that the Europeans as well as

the ACP nations will be asking for substantial changes in the convention.

Some EEC members, like Britain and the Netherlands, want to include a human rights clause. They would like to be able to suspend the convention's operations for countries infringing the human rights provisions.

Such countries would then be taken to the European Court for breach of treaty. Not surprisingly, some developing countries have expressed hostility to the inclusion of such clauses in the new convention, and the French, too, are opposed. The developing countries maintain that such a clause would only be acceptable if it covered racism in Europe and the treatment of migrant labour in the Community.

Differences on this point will be apparent in Hans Dietrich Genscher, the West German foreign minister, reads today's statement on behalf of the EEC. This will say only that human rights must form part of the negotiations.

Mr Percy Patterson, the foreign minister of Jamaica, will make an opening statement on behalf of the ACP nations.

Another area of the negotiations that is likely to be contentious concerns the Community's proposals for protecting investments made in ACP countries by European companies from such acts as expropriation.

Even the duration of the new convention is not yet agreed. Within the Community most members think that Lomé II should run for five years like the first convention which expires in March 1980. The French, however, believe that the EEC's special relationship with the ACP nations would be cemented if the new convention ran for an indefinite period.

It is clear that the negotiations will be hard fought.

Melvyn Westlake

*Lomé II—The Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention, obtainable from 1 Cambridge Terrace, WC1.

Business Diary in Europe: An Ascot tribute to Boussac

the pride of the famous stables of Marcial, the 89-year-old textile head, was on Saturday the 78 to carry his orange y colours. Acamas came in the King George VI and Elizabeth Diamond at Ascot.

his newspaper property in Paris, dailies e and Paris-Tur, a journal sold off earlier nth to a group of bank- l supermarket operators r piece of the Boussac has been disposed of in a desperate effort to st prominent personali- racing in the world for alf a century that the as allowed to carry his

promising attitude of Boussac himself, one of the last of the "dinosaurs", a she heads of leading family concerns are familiarly called in France. He would not part with one shred of his authority.

A few weeks ago the textile group was placed under judicial settlement by the Paris commercial court, because it could no longer meet its debts and other liabilities. More recently, Boussac himself asked that the procedure be extended to all his personal property—his studs, property, valuable pictures, stocks and his interest in Dior fashion house. This was in order to block the judicial liquidation sought by the banks which he owes more than 400m francs, and to safeguard the jobs of his employees.

The official receiver appointed by the court had, after Boussac's decision, appointed in turn an expert to assess the value of his string of racehorses. He seems to have forced their owners' hand to some extent according to reliable reports for he turned up at Boussac's home in the middle of last week and obtained his reluctant consent to their immediate sale to the Aga Khan for, it is said, 40m francs.

Had Boussac refused, Acamas might not have been given leave to go to Ascot and run that last race. The Aga Khan got a bargain



"What cheek! A French writer wants to call the new EEC currency unit the Frankmark."

at the price. Some time ago Boussac was offered 2m francs for the champion alone, but he refused. Two and a half years ago the Aga Khan had already bought 47 mares from him, one third of a racing establishment founded in 1914, which in 64 years has scored some impressive victories: the Jockey Club stakes 12 times, the Arc de Triomphe six times, the Prix de Diane four times, the Ascot Gold Cup four times and the Derby once.

The British businessman or skilled worker moving to the Continent will, I note, have to pay far more heavily for his sporting pastimes, according to

The same general pattern is repeated in the section on clothes and personal care, where there are figures of interest to women executives or to wives of men who move to the Continent.

A medium-priced off-the-peg summer dress, costs between £12 and £18 in Britain, £35 in France, £36 in Italy, £37 in West Germany, £39 in Belgium and between £43 and £55 in Holland.

Shampoo and sets seem to be much the same in the countries listed above, but a medium-price pair of women's day shoes costing between £11 and £16 here could cost up to £36 in Italy.

*West European Living Costs, 1978; CBI, £10.

Despite failing to achieve their main goal of winning the overall first place in the Tour de France which ended in Paris yesterday the TI-Raleigh team repeated their success of last year by winning the team points prize. They thus set the Nottingham-based company on course for another boom year in European sales.

Ken Collins, the TI-Raleigh marketing director, has just allocated £450,000—£50,000 more than last year—to keeping the team in European profits, though he is predicting next year with the insistence that at least two of the 16 riders are British.

Yesterday, as he watched the TI-Raleigh team hurdle up and down the Champs Elysées in the last stage of the month-long race, he said: "We set up the team to get our name known in Europe and it made sense to use the best and the best-known European riders. But as a British firm we are now insisting that next year there should be British riders in the team."

TI-Raleigh hardly needs the publicity to help sales in Britain, but on the Continent, especially France and Germany, its success in the Tour de France and in other major professional cycle races has been the main reason for an increase in market share at a time when the French cycle makers, who dominate the market, have seen sales fall by as much as 20 per cent.

The success has surpassed the company's own most optimistic forecasts. Last year sales on the Continent were up 30 per cent and another increase of up to 30 per cent is expected this year. The result is that the half-million-a-year sales target set when the team was established five years ago is now within reach. Also the team is untarnished by the drug scandals of this year's tour. French dealers are clamouring to take on TI-Raleigh dealerships.

Ross Davies

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